Daily Report

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CONTENTS

NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

FRONT PAGE

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Inter-Arab Affairs

GCC Head Rules Out Summit With Iraq's Saddam *[London AL-HAYAH 14 Jul]* 2
GCC Communications Ministers Meet in Riyadh *[SPA]* 3
Arab League Head 'Abd-al-Majid's Activities Noted 3
Urges Israel To Show 'Goodwill' *[MENA]* 3
Contacts Leaders on Reconciliation *[Cairo Radio]* 3
Arab Differences Over Peace Talks Seen *[AL-AHRAM AL-MASA'I 9 Jul]* 3
Lawyers Appeal For Sudanese Figure's Release *[MENA]* 4
Expanding UN Security Council Urged *[MENA]* 4

Palestinian Affairs

'Siege' of al-Najah University in Nablus Detailed 4
PLO Executive Committee Statement *[Algiers VOP]* 4
'Arafat on 'Conspiracy' *[Paris Radio Monte Carlo]* 5
Editorial Says Rabin's Speech 'Poisoned Candy' *[AL-SHA'B 14 Jul]* 6
Station Commentary Criticizes Rabin Policies *[Algiers VOP]* 7

ARAB AFRICA

Algeria

Military Court Sentences FIS Leaders *[Algiers Radio]* 8
FIS Leaders To Appeal Judgment *[Algiers Radio]* 8
Prosecutor Comments *[Algiers TV]* 8
Groups Demand Removal of 'Heads of Sedition' *[Algiers Radio]* 9

Egypt

Checkpoint on Libyan Borders To Stop Extremists *[AL-JUMHURIYAH 13 Jul]* 9
Assembly Approves Anti-Terrorism Bill *[Cairo Radio]* 9
Al-Jihad Leader Cooperating With Authorities *[AL-AHRAM 12 Jul]* 9
Most al-Jihad Members Joining Islamic Group *[ROSE AL-YUSUF 13 Jul]* 10
Al-Baz Holds Talks With PLO's Abu-Mazin *[MENA]* 10

Sudan

Armed Forces To Strike Other Garang Strongholds *[Omdurman Radio]* 10
Army Official Reports Garang Escape From Torit *[SUNA]* 10
Al-Bashir Receives Envoy, Message From Chad *[SUNA]* 11

Tunisia

Al-Nahdah Movement Trial Resumes 13 Jul *[KUNA]* 11
Islamists Deny Coup Plot *[Paris International]* 11
Ben Ali, U.S. Official Discuss Regional Issues *[MAP]* 11

IRAQ

Foreign Minister's Letter Protests UN Blockade *[Baghdad Radio]* 12
Minister Criticizes 'Provocative' UN Action *[INA]* 14
Engineers Protest UN Team *[INA]* 14
Envoy to UN Discusses Crop Burning With Press *[INA]* 15
Turkish 'Intervention' in Kurdistan Criticized *[Baghdad Radio]* 15
Kurdish Leader on Turkish Raids, PKK, Embargo *[Istanbul HURRIYET 7 Jul]* 15
'Chaos' Places Kurdistan on 'Brink of Volcano' *[INA]* 16
Rebels Claim 2 Intelligence Officers Killed *[Voice of the Revolution]* 16
Husayn Kamil Hasan Receives Cuban Official *[INA]* 16
Saddam Congratulates to New Austrian President *[Baghdad Radio]* 17
Saddam Chairs Meeting on Education—Part 1 *[AL-JUMHURIYAH 12 Jul]* 17
Saddam Chairs Meeting—Part 2 *[AL-THAWRAH 13 Jul]* 20
Officials Cable Saddam on Revolution Anniversary *[Baghdad Radio]* 24

ISRAEL

Standoff at al-Najah University Continues 26
Hunger Strike Planned *[Jerusalem International]* 26
Al-Husayni Seeking International Solidarity *[Jerusalem TV]* 26
Territories Coordinator Comments *[Jerusalem Radio]* 26
Rabin on al-Najah Events, Baker Meeting *[Jerusalem TV]* 27
Rabin's Planned Proposals to Baker Detailed *[HA'ARETZ 16 Jul]* 30
U.S. To Offer $6-8 Billion in Loan Guarantees *[YEDI'OT AHARONOT 16 Jul]* 31
Government To Cut Aid to 'Political' Settlements *[AL HAMISHMAR 16 Jul]* 31
Contracts for 3,000 Units in Territories Canceled *[Jerusalem Radio]* 31
All Building Contracts in Country Frozen *[Jerusalem Radio]* 31
Roads Included in Freeze *[HA'ARETZ 16 Jul]* 32
Housing Minister Comments *[Jerusalem Radio]* 32
Settlers See 'Declaration of War' *[Tel Aviv Radio]* 33
GPO Publishes Government Policy Guidelines *[GPO]* 33
Herzog on Public's 'Great Expectations' for Rabin *[Jerusalem Radio]* 38
Stance on Chemical Nonproliferation Treaty Outlined *[HA'ARETZ 16 Jul]* 38
Palestinian Interim Bodies To Be Created *[HA'ARETZ 16 Jul]* 39
Rubinstein To Head Negotiations With Palestinians *[Jerusalem International]* 40
Slonim To Resume Work on POW-MIA Issue *[YEDI'OT AHARONOT 15 Jul]* 40
New Police Minister on Der'i Probe, Terrorism *[Tel Aviv Radio]* 40
United Torah Jewry's Peretz Resigns From Knesset *[Jerusalem Radio]* 40
Jordan Said Permitting Entry of UN Team *[Jerusalem International]* 40
Rabin To Discuss Syrian Arms With Baker *[HA'ARETZ 15 Jul]* 41
Diplomats Stationed in 3 CIS Republics *[Jerusalem Radio]* 41
Outgoing Labor MK Ya'aqobi To Be UN Ambassador *[Jerusalem International]* 41
Herzog Leaves on Official Visit to Turkey *[Jerusalem International]* 41
Rabin, Chilean Minister Discuss Cooperation *[Jerusalem Radio]* 41

JORDAN

Minister Denies Allowing UN To Inspect Border *[Amman Radio]* 42
Reports 'Unfounded' *[JORDAN TIMES 16-17 Jul]* 42
Minister Discusses Relations, Regional Issues *[MENA]* 43
Iraqi Rebels Report King Conducting Army Purge *[Voice of the Iraqi People]* 44
King Husayn Leaves for Damascus 16 Jul *[Amman Radio]* 44

LEBANON

Further on Buwayz' Refusal To Meet Baker 45
Beirut Radio Reports 45
Buwayz Cites 'National Dignity' *[Beirut Radio]* 45
Syria's al-Asad Assures Security for Elections *[Shanayh VOM]* 45
SLA-Sponsored Rally Protests Elections *[AFP]* 45

Syrian Withdrawal 'Will Not Occur' in Sept *[VOL]* 46
Palestinian Weapons Not To Be Collected *[AL-DIYAR 8 Jul]* 46
Iranian Envoy Hands Velayati Message to Buwayz *[Beirut Radio]* 46
Paper Criticizes U.S. Policy Toward Iraq *[AL-DIYAR 3 Jul]* 47
Further on Israeli Operations in South 47
SLA Intercepts Four Infiltrators *[AFP]* 47
Amal—Six 'Enemy Personnel' Killed *[Beirut Radio]* 47
Israelis Use Incendiary Shells *[Beirut Radio]* 48
Islamic Amal Leader Asks Government for Weapons *[Tehran International]* 48
* Text of Draft Electoral Law Published *[AL-SAFIR 16 Jun]* 48

SYRIA

Foreign Minister al-Shar' Returns From Egypt *[Damascus Radio]* 52
Al-Shar' Hails Plans for Armenian Embassy *[Damascus Radio]* 52
King Husayn Arrives in Damascus 16 Jul *[Damascus Radio]* 52
Rabin Remarks Aimed at U.S. Loan Guarantees *[Damascus Radio]* 52

SOUTH ASIA

Afghanistan

Trouble-Shooting Kabul Peace Committee Planned *[AFP]* 53
Purge of Communists From Government Urged *[Radio Message of Freedom]* 53

Bangladesh

Burmese Rohingya Refugees Take Up Arms *[AFP]* 54
Prime Minister To Visit Bahrain, Pakistan *[Dhaka Radio]* 54

India

Russia To Continue Rocket Technology Cooperation *[Delhi Radio]* 55
Pakistan Seen Sponsoring Terrorism Against Delhi *[INDIAN EXPRESS 5 Jul]* 55
Mobilizing World Opinion Succeeds *[Delhi Radio]* 56
Warning Issued on China's Spratlys Policy *[INDIAN EXPRESS 7 Jul]* 56
Sharma Leads in Early Presidential Count *[Delhi Radio]* 57
More Reportage on Disputed Ayodhya Shrine Site 57
Attempts To Defuse Crisis Viewed *[Delhi Radio]* 57
Court Forbids Construction *[Delhi Radio]* 57
Mosque Committee Hails Court Order *[Delhi Radio]* 58
Hindu Council Vows More Building *[Delhi Radio]* 58
Prime Minister To Meet Activists *[Delhi Radio]* 58
No-Confidence Debate Resumes in Lok Sabha *[Delhi Radio]* 59
Kashmir Situation Said To Be Deteriorating *[THE HINDUSTAN TIMES 8 Jul]* 59
Total Army Pullout From Punjab Seen by End Aug *[THE HINDUSTAN TIMES 7 Jul]* 59

Iran

Velayati Holds Talks With Officials in Germany 60
Meets Foreign Minister Kinkel *[IRNA]* 60
Meets Ex-Foreign Minister Genscher *[Tehran Radio]* 60
Describes Talks as 'Positive' *[Tehran Radio]* 60
Remarks on Bosnian 'Genocide' *[IRNA]* 61
Deputy Foreign Minister, German Envoy Meet *[IRNA]* 61
Envoy in Amman Says Jordan Ties Progressing *[AL-RA'Y 13 Jul]* 62
Swiss Diplomat Says Relations Improving *[TEHRAN TIMES 1 Jul]* 62
U.S. Warned To Heed Lesson of Boudiaf Murder *[JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI 30 Jun]* 63
'National Reconciliation' in Algeria Urged *[Tehran Radio]* 64
Commentary Views 'Weakness' of United Nations *[Tehran Radio]* 64
Youth Said Target of Foreign 'Poisonous Programs' *[KEYHAN 2 Jul]* 65

'Security Forces Day' Planned for 18 Jul *[Tehran Radio]* 65
Larijani To Replace Islamic Guidance Minister *[IRNA]* 66
National Bank Governor Reports on GDP *[IRNA]* 66
Pipeline Director Cited on Oil Products Tranfers *[IRNA]* 67
Government's 'Lack' of Economic Coordination Viewed *[RESALAT 24 Jun]* 67
Commentary Views Avoiding 'Econoomic Impasse' *[JAHAN-E ESLAM 2 Jul]* 68
Public Relations Offices Accused of Censorship *[SALAM 2 Jul]* 68

Pakistan

President Meets Uzbek Delegation; Accord Reached *[Pakistan TV]* 69
Foreign Ministry Recalls New Delhi Envoy *[THE NEWS 15 Jul]* 69
Spokesman Asks India To Protect Disputed Mosque *[Pakistan TV]* 70

Jordan-Israel

Information Minister Mahmud al-Sharif denied "a report carried by some foreign news agencies" that Amman has decided to allow an international inspection team to inspect its border with Iraq, Amman radio reported. The minister called the reports "absolutely unfounded and fabricated" and said "Jordan has not and will never allow UN inspectors to monitor its border with Iraq," according to the radio. An article in the JORDAN TIMES said Jordan "categorically denied" the reports, and reiterated its "firm position" against "any measures which will infringe" on Jordan's "credibility or sovereignty." In a related development, Jerusalem radio's Arabic-language service reported on 15 July that the Jordanian Government has decided to allow an international team to inspect the Jordanian-Iraqi border and observe Jordanian efforts to prevent cross-border smuggling into Iraq. Citing an unnamed official Jordanian source, the radio said a 14-member team would arrive in Amman at month's end at the request of the UN secretary general.

Lebanon

Foreign Minister Buwayz said considerations related to "national dignity" preclude him from meeting with U.S. Secretary of State James Baker, Beirut radio reported. Buwayz stated that any meeting outside Lebanese territory would not "serve our goals, and, accordingly, we cannot accept the invitation."

Palestinian Affairs

The PLO Executive Committee urged the United States, Russia, and other countries to lift what it termed the Israeli "siege" on al-Najah University in Nabulus. In a communique broadcast by Algiers VOP, the Executive Committee said IDF troops had fired on university buildings, and that the incident was "tantamount to a violation of all international norms," and would "expose further and further the real face of Rabin and his government." Meanwhile, Yasir 'Arafat called the events in Nabulus "an ongoing conspiracy against our people, children, students, schools, and universities." In an interview with Paris Radio Monte Carlo, the PLO chairman said Nabulus would not surrender, and that Prime Minister Rabin would "never succeed in subjugating" its citizens.

Algeria

The trial of Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) leaders ended 15 July with sentences being handed down against the seven defendants, Algiers radio disclosed. Defendants Abassi Madani and Ali Belhadj received 12 years in jail without parole; Kamel Guemazi was sentenced to 6 years in jail without parole; and Ali Djeddi, Noureddine Chigara, Abdelkader Omar, and Abdelkader Boukhamkham were sentenced to 4 years in jail without parole. The radio noted that the sentences were issued "after the court considered the extenuating circumstances of the seven defendants." In a separate broadcast Algiers radio reported that the attorneys for the FIS defendants said they would appeal the sentence to the Supreme Court.

India

Russia has reassured Delhi of its continued cooperation in accelerating the transfer of cryogenic engine technology, Delhi radio reported 15 July. In other news, the Allahabad High Court banned construction at the disputed temple-mosque site in Ayodhya, according to Delhi radio. However, the World Hindu Council said that it would not stop its construction activity, and a delegation is scheduled to meet the prime minister to discuss the issue.

Inter-Arab Affairs

GCC Head Rules Out Summit With Iraq's Saddam

PM1607093792 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic 14 Jul 92 p 5

[Interview with 'Abdallah Bisharah, secretary general of the Gulf Cooperation Council, by Muhammad 'Ali al-Ruz and Bisharah Shirbil in London; date not given]

[Excerpts] [AL-HAYAH] First, we would like to ask: Do your statements express the Gulf states' position or your personal position?

[Bisharah] My statements express the Gulf Cooperation Council's [GCC] position. I do not represent the Gulf states. I represent the GCC, whose decisions I express and cite in my statements. These are the rules I observe. [passage omitted]

[AL-HAYAH] How does the GCC view the pattern for Arab dealings in the future?

[Bisharah] Immediately after the war we signed with the Arab coalition states (Egypt, Syria, and the Gulf states) a formula for Arab dealings which we believe can eliminate the pre-war fears and provide the reassurance we seek. This formula includes basic rules; most important, it is a formula for dealings between sovereign states with their present borders and internal systems, political and social. They also include relations with neighboring states on the basis of the principle of mutual respect. [passage omitted]

[AL-HAYAH] What is your opinion of the rumor about an effort to hold an Arab summit to be attended by Iraqi President Saddam Husayn?

[Bisharah] A summit? Attended by Saddam? Who said that?

[AL-HAYAH] It has been reported that there is an endeavor by a Maghreb state....

[Bisharah] It is out of the question and unreasonable. It has not been proposed and it is rejected.... People are tired and wounded, and the victims' blood is not yet dry.

[AL-HAYAH] If it is proposed, what will you do?

[Bisharah] It has not been proposed, nor will it be proposed. [passage omitted]

[AL-HAYAH] What about Jordan and the PLO?

[Bisharah] We believe that states are independent and free to assess and implement their policies and to make the decisions that suit them. The parties you mentioned made their decisions freely during the invasion, within the framework of the so-called reconciliation. We, too, assess our positions toward them freely. These parties know full well what they did, since everything is documented. As for using circumstances, confusion, and misunderstanding as an excuse, it concerns them, not us.

[AL-HAYAH] What is the solution?

[Bisharah] I have said it. Besides, who dares to take such steps? As you know, the Gulf public prevents it... the matter is clear and needs no mediation. We do not want any mediation in the proposed manner. [passage omitted]

[AL-HAYAH] Does the formula signed by the eight states contain guarantees to ensure that its principles are not violated?

[Bisharah] Do you want something better than the clause about resolving disputes peacefully and in accordance with international principles?

[AL-HAYAH] Does that mean that there are no more detailed clauses?

[Bisharah] I am keen to focus very closely on the need to avoid chauvinism in relations between states and peoples, because it is harmful to them. We were greatly harmed by chauvinism, which is how some people wanted to characterize Arab-Iranian relations. Iran is a huge country, and we have major interests with it, and also with Turkey and others. [passage omitted]

[AL-HAYAH] You mentioned Iran. Some Arab parties that signed the coalition formula voice reservations about a role for it in Gulf security.

[Bisharah] Gulf-Iranian relations are necessary, and their development toward the better is also necessary and imperative in view of a number of important cultural, religious, and historic factors concerning the concept of regional security.

We share the same waters and waterways that are vital to shipping and to the world economy. Cooperation must be maintained in these and other spheres in a manner that safeguards everyone's interests. But that has nothing to do with the GCC states' security, which is a Gulf responsibility that the states must meet as they deem suitable. We distinguish between, on the one hand, security in its broad cooperative meaning based on dialogue and interests and, on the other, internal security, if that is the right phrase. What we want is to thwart the claim of interference in internal affairs. We are more anxious to see the disappearance of revolutionary literature, which is futile, and to ensure that Gulf-Iranian, Arab-Arab, and Arab-international relations are free from revolutionary rhetoric, in line with our entry into the new world order. From this viewpoint, we believe that the world stood up to liberate Kuwait because of interconnecting interests. [passage omitted]

[AL-HAYAH] What stage has been reached with regard to the unified Gulf army?

[Bisharah] The army issue is being studied, and the results will be referred to the Gulf summit in December. The issue lies within the framework of Gulf self-building efforts.

[AL-HAYAH] How do you view the impact on peace negotiations of Yitzhaq Rabin's accession to power in Israel?

[Bisharah] There will definitely be a different atmosphere and different negotiation attitudes, though I expect matters to take a long time. [passage omitted]

GCC Communications Ministers Meet in Riyadh

LD1407211792 Riyadh SPA in English 1255 GMT 14 Jul 92

[Text] Riyadh, July 14, SPA—Communications, posts, telegraphs and telephones ministers of member states of the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] started a meeting here this morning.

In an opening speech, Habib Hasan Jawhar Hayat, the Kuwaiti communications minister and chairman of the meeting, welcomed his colleagues from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Qatar and Oman. He expressed confidence that the meeting's outcome, as expected would be positive.

He briefed its participants about Kuwait's experience in rebuilding its communications and telecommunication establishments in the aftermath of his country's war of liberation.

He thanked the government of custodian of the two holy mosques, King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz for hosting the meeting.

Following the opening ceremony, the ministers went into a behind-the-doors session.

Arab League Head 'Abd-al-Majid's Activities Noted

Urges Israel To Show 'Goodwill'

NC1407135192 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1220 GMT 14 Jul 92

[Text] Cairo, 14 Jul (MENA)—Arab League Secretary General Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid has called on Israel to show its goodwill and willingness to accept the challenge of peace by declaring an immediate halt to settlement building in the occupied Arab territories in the West Bank and the occupied Syrian Golan Heights. He also called on Israel to accept an international fact-finding committee in the occupied territories and to honor the land-for-peace principle.

In a statement today, commenting on Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin's address to the Knesset yesterday, Dr.'Abd-al-Majid emphasized that peace in the Middle East will benefit every country in the region, but primarily Israel and the Israeli people. He pointed out that peace is the best way to comprehensive economic development in the region's countries, which have long been suffering the perils of wars.

Dr. 'Abd-al-Majid stressed the need for Israel to implement international legitimacy's resolutions on the Middle East, particularly Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, which deal with withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories and recognition of the Palestinian people's right to set up an independent state on all their national soil with Jerusalem as the capital. He also called for implementing the Security Council resolution calling for Israel's withdrawal from southern Lebanon.

Dr. 'Abd-al-Majid said the Arab side had stressed before the Madrid peace conference that it supports the peace efforts in the Middle East. This shows a sincere Arab desire to accept the challenge of peace based on the implementation of the UN resolutions, he added.

Contacts Leaders on Reconciliation

NC1507065192 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 0335 GMT 15 Jul 92

[From the press review]

[Text] AL-AKHBAR reports that Arab League Secretary General Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid is currently preparing for a new initiative to achieve comprehensive reconciliation among the Arab countries to overcome the crisis left in the wake by the Gulf war.

The paper says that Dr. 'Abd-al-Majid has sounded out several Arab leaders, including President Husni Mubarak, Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, and Palestinian president Yasir 'Arafat, about achieving reconciliation and his desire to resolve disputes among the Arab countries before agreeing on holding an extraordinary Arab summit in Cairo sometime this year.

Arab Differences Over Peace Talks Seen

NC1507072792 Cairo AL-AHRAM AL-MASA'I in Arabic 9 Jul 92 p 2

[Editorial: "Premature Differences"]

[Text] Some Arab newspapers are hinting that differences might arise between the Palestinians and Syrians over the future of the Arab-Israeli peace process. These papers expect the peace process to gain momentum following the rise to power of the Israeli Labor Party and the fall of the extremist right-wing Likud bloc.

The papers expect new Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin to follow a new strategy in the peace process, different from that of his predecessor. Shamir sought to conclude peace treaties with neighboring Arab states while avoiding the problem of the continued Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza, which he considered part of Greater Israel. Shamir wanted to keep the West Bank and Gaza as part of any peace treaty with Syria, Jordan, or Lebanon. In the opinion of these newspapers, the Rabin-led Labor Party will make clear-cut initiatives to freeze settlement-building and reach an agreement on self-rule with the Palestinians, in collaboration with the Jordanians, while holding agreements with Syria and Lebanon until later.

Obviously, recent Jordanian moves, beginning with Jordanian King Husayn's message to Yitzhaq Rabin on 28 June, could be interpreted as part of this process. The Jordanian royal message was conveyed by a Jordanian delegation that traveled from the airport [not further specified] to the Ramada Hotel in Tel Aviv, where they stayed until a meeting was arranged with Rabin at his home in Ramat Aviv. The two sides agreed to prepare for a meeting between Rabin and King Husayn in Elat or al-'Aqabah, provided that the meeting was kept secret, just as the Jordanian delegation's visit to Tel Aviv was kept secret. Naturally, these moves are intended to promote the Jordanian role in the peace talks and meet Rabin's new strategy halfway.

Observers say these moves, which Syria naturally heard about, caused considerable concern in Damascus and prompted the Syrian leadership to define its position as follows:

1. Syria will not become involved with Rabin's maneuvers, which are meant to embarrass Syria and drain the U.S. peace initiative of its substance—namely, that Israel withdraw simultaneously from all Syrian, Lebanese, and Palestinian territory.

2. Damascus will not accept a partial withdrawal from the Golan in exchange for normalized relations with Israel. It will insist on a comprehensive withdrawal in accordance with Resolution 242 and the U.S. letter of assurances to Syria. This letter states that the United States does not recognize Israel's 1981 decision to apply its laws on the Golan, and that Resolution 242 applies on all fronts.

3. Syria does not accept administrative autonomy as a solution to the Palestinian issue, or the exclusion of full Israeli withdrawal from the West Bank, Gaza, and Jerusalem from the final solution.

4. Israeli withdrawal from all occupied territory must be linked. Any separate solution, even if acceptable to the Palestinians, is rejected.

Naturally, we cannot prejudge developments. We believe, however, that these differences are premature and we warn against the danger of falling into the trap of inter-Arab disputes. We call for tight Arab coordination and for waiting until Rabin unveils his plans so that we can discuss them, accept what is in the Arabs' interest, and reject what is not. We believe in the need for a unified Arab stand and that reason will prevail in the end.

Lawyers Appeal For Sudanese Figure's Release

NC1507170792 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1356 GMT 15 Jul 92

[Text] Cairo, 15 Jul (MENA)—The Arab Lawyers Federation's Secretariat General has appealed to all international organizations concerned with human rights to act quickly to bring about the release of Sayyid Ahmad al-Husayn, former Sudanese deputy prime minister and foreign and interior minister. In a statement issued today, the Secretariat General said that al-Husayn was sentenced to death in a summary court martial in Sudan following a trial lacking any internationally recognized standards or fairness.

The group called for his release or for a retrial before an open court with a defense lawyer to defend al-Husayn.

Expanding UN Security Council Urged

NC1507082292 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0704 GMT 15 Jul 92

[Text] Cairo, 15 Jul (MENA)—Ambassador Samir al-Shihabi, president of the current UN General Assembly session, has stated that the call several years ago to expand the Security Council membership has become pressing now that the number of General Assembly member-countries has risen to 178, the balance of powers has changed, and the communist countries have collapsed.

In a statement to the Egyptian weekly AKHIR SA'AH published today, he said that there is a working group assigned to study proposals in this regard and discuss the council's size, powers, and type of membership.

He asserted that all Security Council resolutions are mandatory according to Article 25 of the charter regardless of whether they come under provisions six or seven, adding that the only difference is in the method of their implementation and the circumstances governing this method.

He noted UN Secretary General Dr. Butrus Butrus-Ghali's reforms and efforts in preventive diplomacy as one of the Security Council's responsibilities.

The UN General Assembly president affirmed that Arab solidarity is capable of rearranging Arabs' situation and ending their complaint that the world acts according to two different scales.

Palestinian Affairs

'Siege' of al-Najah University in Nabulus Detailed

PLO Executive Committee Statement

LD1607020292 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 15 Jul 92

[Text] The PLO Executive Committee today released a statement about the siege of al-Najah University in Nabulus by the occupation troops and said that it regarded it as the first practical message sent by Rabin to our masses and that it was a message of violence on the walls of the nationalist [al-Wataniyah] al-Najah University and on Nabulus and its inhabitants.

In its statement, the Executive Committee urged the two cosponsors of the peace conference, namely the U.S.

Administration and the Russian Government, as well as the UN Secretary General, the Security Council, UNESCO, the Arab, Muslim, nonaligned, and the European states to lift the siege on the students who are besieged inside the university campus and to lift the siege on the activist town [al-Madinah al-Munadhilah] of Nabulus.

Here follows the text of the statement:

Less than 24 hours after assuming his responsibility as new head of the Israeli Government, Yitzhaq Rabin began to escalate the practice of the iron fist policy that he so often called for and followed, considering it as the official Israeli policy adopted to deal with the children of our people under occupation.

After the student elections were held democratically—and we are proud of this—the Israeli army of occupation, under orders from its defense minister, Rabin himself, has been massing, since yesterday afternoon, thousands of its troops. These troops are still encircling and laying siege to the campus of the nationalist al-Najah University in the activist town of Nabulus and are firing at the university buildings where there are 2,000 female students and 3,000 male students alongside 300 lecturers, readers, and university workers.

The army of occupation has cut off water and food supplies for them and even health care; among the besieged there are 15 pregnant sisters—one of whom has had a miscarriage—and about twenty others have fainted.

What Rabin and his army of occupation are doing is tantamount to a violation of all international norms, which prohibit attacks on universities and schools in such a savage manner. Afterwards, the town of Nabulus was declared a military zone. This siege that affects thousands of the children of our people inside our occupied land is the first practical message sent by Rabin to our masses, and it is a bloody message of violence on the walls of al-Najah University in Nabulus and against Nabulus and its heroic inhabitants. This action will inevitably lead to a series of steps and serious complications that will expose further and further the real face of Rabin and his government and his army, and it will inevitably hamper the process of the negotiations of the peace conference that Mr. Rabin boasted about in his statement for which he won the confidence of the Knesset. There were fine empty words addressed to the world public opinion and a salute of belligerence, repression, and savagery of the occupation addressed to the Palestinians and the Arabs.

We draw the attention of public opinion, the world opinion in general, and U.S. opinion in particular, to this dangerous and duplicitous policy and to these dangerous arbitrary practices that constitute the new title of the new Israeli policy. Rabin's iron fist does not intimidate our people who will melt it with their relief in the justness of their cause—the cause of ending the occupation—and their determination to continue the struggle and the fighting until this lofty and legitimate goal is achieved through their blessed intifadah, which is continuing unabated.

We exhort the two cosponsors of the peace conference, namely the U.S. Administration and the Russian Government, the UN Secretary General, the Security Council, UNESCO, the Arab, Islamic, nonaligned, and European states, and the other states in the world to act to lift the siege on our students besieged inside their university campus and to lift the siege on the activist and heroic town of Nabulus.

'Arafat on 'Conspiracy'

JN1607071792 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0532 GMT 16 Jul 92

[Interview with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, identified by his nom de guerre Abu-'Ammar, by Maryam Murad on 15 July; place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Murad] PLO Executive Committee Chairman, Mr. Yasir 'Arafat, what do you have to say about what is occurring in Nabulus?

['Arafat] As you see, Maryam, this is part of the ongoing conspiracy against our people, children, students, schools, and universities with which Rabin inaugurates his and his new government's term in office. As I have said, it is a perpetuation of the iron fist policy, however he may try—through his recent statements and his speeches in the Knesset—to camouflage it with a silk glove. I would like to tell him, however, that Nabulus will not surrender to him and that he will never succeed in subjugating Nabulus or the inhabitants and students of Nabulus. His attack against this education edifice comes in the wake of the democratic elections that were held there. He witnesed our democratic spirit and how the students, following their democratic elections, have now joined ranks to achieve the same objective of confronting the soldiers of the occupation, their bullets, and their tampering with the sanctity of this university. I tell Rabin: Carry out more of these actions so that your mask will fall and so that you, those who guide you, and those who go along with you will be completely exposed. I say that peace cannot be forged through a massacre on the university campus in Nabulus. Peace is forged at the negotiating table. I would like to tell my people: Truly you are stronger than they because of the terror in their hearts, sent by God. They are men devoid of understanding. [Koranic verses]

This is God's saying, which I address to every woman, man, student, and child in my country. Nabulus is now on the same diapason with brave Gaza. Nabulus is now on the same diapason with Hebron, Bethlehem, Bayt Sahur, Janin, Ramallah, Jerusalem, Khan Yunus, Rafah, and Jericho. They are all united as one man. I tell them: Behold! They came on you from above and below, and behold! Their eyes became dim and their hearts gaped up to the throats, and you imagined various vain thoughts

about God! In that situation were the believers tried; they were shaken as by a tremendous shaking. [Koranic verses] I say: Beloved ones, we remain loyal to the pledge and united until the Palestinian flag flutters over Jerusalem, the capital of the state of Palestine. Rabin knows that all of our people will rise to protect our sons in Nabulus within a few hours if this obstinacy continues. Rabin should keep in mind that the name of Nabulus is Jabal al-Nar [mountain of fire]. This Jabal al-Nar can never give in or capitulate!

Successive religious and nationalist miracles will emerge from Jabal al-Nar so that the revolution and the intifadah would continue vigorously. Be firm and patient in suffering and adversity and throughout all periods of panic; such are the people of truth, the God-fearing. Do not slacken in following up the enemy; if you are suffering hardships, they are suffering similar hardships; but your hope is in God, which they have not. God is full of knowledge and wisdom. [Koranic verses] Greetings of loyalty, affection, manhood, and revolution to those heroes besieged on the university campus and to Nabulus, which has been turned into a military zone to prevent news from reaching it so that Rabin can commit crimes against our kinfolk. I tell him that the Nabulus population cannot but be what the people of Palestine have known them to be: United against occupation, repression, injustice, and oppression. I tell them: If God helps you, none can overcome you. God's good pleasure was on the believers when they swore fealty to you under the tree. He knew what was in their hearts, and He sent down tranquillity to them; and He rewarded them with speedy victory. [Koranic verses] Yes, speedy victory! God willing, the Palestinian flag will be hoisted over the walls and minarets of Jerusalem; the first of the two qiblahs [direction toward which Muslims turn for prayer]; the third of the two holy mosques; the place to which the Prophet Muhammad—peace and blessings of God be upon him—made his midnight journey, and the cradle of Messiah, peace be upon him. Holy Jerusalem is the capital of the state of Palestine. The world has seen our unity. Yesterday, Hamas, Fatah, the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, the Jihad Movement, the Arab Liberation Front, the Popular Struggle Front, and the Palestine Liberation Front were engaged in democratic competition. Today, they are united in facing the enemy occupation. They all are united within the PLO and the Palestinian people. The dawn is coming. Victory is coming. Revolution until victory!

[Murad] Abu-'Ammar, it is understood that you do not trust and have not trusted what Rabin says.

['Arafat] Have I not said this in Cairo? Mrs. Maryam, today he turned his ugly face against the university after its democratic elections. He could not tolerate this democratic spirit and cohesion, this solidarity and love among the students. He could not tolerate this; with his bone-breaking mentality, he could not tolerate this. This is the disaster. I ask: Will the world; the Arab nation; the Islamic nation; all free and honorable ones; Europe and the United States, which advocate democracy; and the entire world, which calls for democracy accept that 2,000 male students and 2,000 female students—some of whom are pregnant—and 300 university workers are denied water and food, as well as medicine for those who have fainted? Is this reasonable? Fire has been opened over their heads to terrorize them and on the university buildings. What happens to pregnant women in this terrorist atmosphere? It seems that this is the real policy statement. The other policy statement has been aired only to fool the world.

[Murad] Thank you, Abu-'Ammar.

Editorial Says Rabin's Speech 'Poisoned Candy'

TA1407160292 Jerusalem AL-SHA'B in Arabic 14 Jul 92 pp 1, 11

[Editorial: "Rabin's Statements Just Poisoned Candy!"]

[Text] Yitzhaq Rabin, the new Israeli prime minister, failed to see reality when he noted that the Palestinian problem can be resolved by effecting changes in the Palestinians' standard of living and by solving the refugee problem within the framework of his concept of "autonomy," which rejects the Palestinian people's right to sovereignty over their land.

Rabin's speech may contain some flexibility to distinguish it from the positions of his predecessor, particularly regarding the so-called "Greater Israel" that Shamir always invoked. But a thorough study of Rabin's speech indicates that this flexibility is in form, not in substance. The speech seeks to undermine coordination between the Arab parties in the negotiations and to induce Washington to hasten to grant the $10 billion in loan guarantees, which will raise the prestige of his newly-formed government in Israel.

Apparently Rabin has realized his aim, if we may judge from the U.S. State Department's initial reaction welcoming his speech. This means Washington is seriously inclined to grant Rabin the loan guarantees in return for no more than "lip service."

It seems that Washington, which is "delighted" with Rabin's speech, will try to exert more pressure on the Arab and Palestinian side to make further concessions under the pretext of "encouraging" Rabin and not wasting the available opportunity.

We believe that this U.S. position means returning the issue once more to the Israeli labyrinth and then eliminating the chance of peace and holding the Arabs responsible for aborting the peace process.

We believe that Rabin's speech, dwelling on issues already rejected by the Arabs and the Palestinians, especially his position on settlements, Jerusalem, and the concept of the interim period, is no more than poisoned "candy," offered to persuade some parties to conclude separate agreements. We call for dealing with Rabin's

policy with open aware eyes. We urge formulating a unified Arab response that affirms to Rabin and the U.S. Administration that the Arab parties deal with any plans based on a unified, indivisible perception.

If Rabin calls on the Palestinians to abandon the stone, he must ask himself: Why did the Palestinians pick up the stone? Did that not happen after the Palestinians were confronted by an unequivocal refusal to grant them their legitimate rights over their national soil? Did that not happen after the Palestinians found out that Israel refuses to yield to international legitimacy and is then faced only by the appeasing and selective policies of those who claim to be guardians of that legitimacy?

Viewing Rabin's statements as merely a disgusting repetition of outdated policies, we believe that peace in this region can only be established through total Israeli compliance with UN legitimacy and through Israel's yielding to the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, foremost of which is their right to self-determination and the establishment of their independent state on their soil.

Station Commentary Criticizes Rabin Policies

LD1507225292 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1800 GMT 15 Aug 92

[Station commentary]

[Excerpts] Brothers, in his address to the Knesset on presenting his government's program, Rabin revealed numerous facts we could consider as part of his hitherto undeclared intentions.

Rabin said: We consider it necessary to emphasize that the government will continue to consolidate the Jewish settlements along the confrontation lines because the [words indistinct].

We wonder, does he have the right to keep these areas? Are these territories not a part of what Rabin occupied in 1967? How could he ask for peace with the Palestinians while he announces in advance that he will keep the largest and most important part?

He addressed the Palestinians, asking them to accept the autonomy plan by saying: You will not get all what you want, but do not waste this opportunity that might not come again. He added: You have failed in your wars against us, and you have not stopped retreating. For more than 44 years you have been committing mistakes. Your leaders deceive you and lead you to failure. They have wasted all opportunities and rejected all our proposals.

Here we say to Rabin: The Palestinian people, who have struggled and strove for fulfilling their national rights for 44 years, will continue their just struggle, which is guaranteed by international laws and treaties, for the liberation of all their occupied territories. The Palestinian people will not accept charity from Rabin in the form of limited autonomy, as he says. We want a just and comprehensive peace, which restores the right to its right place, based on international legitimacy and the UN resolutions, particularly 242 which means exchanging land for peace.

In this peace, autonomy is a transitional stage toward national independence and not an aim in itself. If we have failed in our wars against Israel for 44 years, this does not mean that we will be subjugated or will capitulate to Israel in order to have it spread its control over us. [passage omitted]

He says: Now is the time for the Palestinians to abandon their stones and knives, because what is on offer is peace in the Middle East.

We agree. What is on offer is peace. But what peace does Rabin mean? Is it the peace he wants or is it the peace we want and the international community and international resolutions want?

We say to Rabin: In order for the Palestinians to abandon their knives and stones, the occupation army should withdraw from the Palestinian land, and after we establish our national authority on our land the Palestinians will abandon their weapons.

Rabin also suggested that the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation to the peace talks should come to Jerusalem to discuss matters.

Here we would like to explain that peace negotiations and peace talks are comprehensive talks and discussions between the Arabs and Israel and should be on the land of a neutral party. How could Rabin want it in occupied Jerusalem? And what sort of discussions could be held under the spears of occupation? [passage omitted]

The Arabs should undertake political action to expose Rabin's positions, which try to wriggle out of a just peace based on the international resolutions 242, 338, and others, which mean exchanging land for peace. Mr. Baker has also sent reassuring letters to the Arab sides participating in the peace talks.

Therefore, since the first day of his government, Rabin wants to get everything and does not want to give anything in exchange. He wants peace with the Arabs; (he wants) cooperation with them; he wants U.S. financial and economic support; he wants to get out of his international isolation; and he wants to end the intifadah without giving the Palestinian people their national independence and without giving them the right to self-determination on their land and to establish the independent Palestinian state.

Algeria

Military Court Sentences FIS Leaders

LD1507163592 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1600 GMT 15 Jul 92

[Text] After four days, the trial of the dissolved Islamic Salvation Front [FIS] leaders ended this afternoon with the issuance of the sentences against the seven defendants. Here is the radio mission at the Blida military with more details:

[Unidentified correspondent] After deliberations, the Blida Military Court issued its final judgment concerning the seven defendants: Abassi Madani and Ali Belhadj—12 years in jail without parole, the court finding that they are found guilty of conspiracy against the authority of the state and harming the national economy, in addition to the crime of circulating inciting leaflets.

Kamel Guemazi—sentenced to 6 years in jail without parole for the crime of using public funds for partisan purposes; he was head of the Algiers People's Council.

Ali Djeddi, Noureddine Chigara, Abdelkader Omar, and Abdelkader Boukhamkham—4 years in jail without parole for the crime of harming the national economy.

It should be mentioned that these sentences have been issued after the court considered the extenuating circumstances of the seven defendants, in accordance with military, penal, and judicial laws.

It should be mentioned that the court in its deliberations has ruled against the crimes leveled at Abassi and Ali Belhadj concerning the management and organization of a rebellious movement aimed at changing the regime with the use of violence under the cover of political strike.

In his comment on the judgment outside the court room, Commander Boukhari said that in according extenuating circumstances to the accused, the court had taken into account the aspect of the political and moral responsibility for which the law does not provide for punishment. Therefore, in issuing its judgment, the court focussed only on the criminal aspect, all the more so since political and moral responsibility is also borne by other sides.

FIS Leaders To Appeal Judgment

LD1507193892 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1830 GMT 15 Jul 92

[Text] We would like to remind you that the defense for the leaders of the dissolved Islamic Salvation Front [FIS] stated last night on national radio that they would appeal to the Supreme Court against the sentence, whatever it might be—unless, of course, there was a verdict of not guilty.

Prosecutor Comments

LD1507211592 Algiers ENTV Television Network in Arabic 1900 GMT 15 Jul 92

[Interview with unidentified military prosecutor by reporter Ahmed Magaache in Algiers on 15 July—recorded]

[Text] [Announcer] Our colleague Ahmed Magaache has conducted an interview with the military prosecutor of the republic on explaining some aspects of the trial [of Islamic Salvation Front leaders]:

[Magaache] Mr. Military Prosecutor, do you consider the case as political or criminal after these sentences?

[Military prosecutor] Actually, as the defendants were convicted and received sentences, the case is criminal. Had it been a political case they would not have received sentences. This also confirms that this case is a criminal case, and those who were tried were persons unrelated to politics. The political actions and the mistakes committed due to political practices are not punished by Algerian law.

[Magaache] Mr. Prosecutor, you have asked for life imprisonment for Abassi Madani and Ali Belhaj, and today we see a sentence of 12 years, what is your explanation or comment on that?

[Military prosecutor] In fact the judge must not act in a personal capacity. We indeed asked, as permitted by law—for we have a minimum and maximum limit—for life imprisonment for Abassi Madani and 20 years for Djiddi Ali and Guemazi Kamel. The law specifies the minimum and maximum limits; however, the court is free. The prosecution, regardless of the circumstances, is a party, a principal party; yet it is an honorable adversary. The prosecution, regardless of the circumstances, does its work properly. However, there are other measures which will be taken later in regard to the appeal. The prosecution could appeal and the defense could also appeal. We are not affected, naturally, by these matters, we have done our task and we consider that we have discharged our task, regardless of the circumstances. Personal factors have no relation whatsoever. I personally am not affected by personal relations at all.

[Magaache] Mr. General Prosecutor, all the defendants have benefited from extenuating circumstances, as the president of the court said; what is your explanation of that?

[Military prosecutor] Indeed. The extenuating circumstances are factors attached to the person. Some of those factors are social and some are up to the court's consideration. It is a technical matter relating to the procedural law of the first instant and the criminal law. When the defendant benefits from extenuating circumstances, one of the measures of the law is then applied to him, namely Article 53.

[Maganche] Mr. General Prosecutor, in case of appeal, which authority will consider the case?

[Military prosecutor] Naturally the concerned authority is clear and known, because all judicial bodies existing in Algeria, be they civilian or military, are under the authority and supervision of the Supreme Court. In any appeal, whether by the prosecution or by my colleagues of the defense, the file is submitted to the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court has full competence to take the decision it deems suitable. It can repeal the sentence or support the sentence and so on. There are known procedures.

Groups Demand Removal of 'Heads of Sedition'

LD1507203692 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1830 GMT 15 Jul 92

[Text] In a statement handed to the national radio today, 10 national organizations have called for the removal of what they called the heads of sedition and conspiracy from the decision-making and executive centers so that Algeria may restore its cultural and civilized framework.

They also called for the immediate and urgent implementation of the bill on imposing the use of the Arabic language and for protecting that bill from arbitrary measures. They expressed the hope that the new government will list the implementation of this bill among its priorities.

In their statement which they issued after their meeting today at the headquarters of the National Union of Algerian Students, the 10 organizations called on the Constitutional Council to shoulder its responsibilities in defending the constitutional character of the laws of the republic.

They expressed their absolute support for the Society for Defending the Arabic Language in its lawsuit against the Constitutional Council.

The organizations which signed the statement were: the National Union of Algerian Students; the Algerian Islamic Scouts; the Algerian Society for Defending the Arabic Language; the National Organization for the Sons of Martyrs; the National Union of Education Workers; the General Union of Free Students; the National Society for Researching and Protecting Maritime Heritage, al- Jahidhiyah; the National Union of Algerian Youth; and the National Society for Student Tourism.

Egypt

Checkpoint on Libyan Borders To Stop Extremists

NC1607093592 Cairo AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 13 Jul 92 p 1

[Report by Mahmud Sadiq]

[Text] An Egyptian checkpoint has been set at the bottom of al-Sallum Hill to check for Egyptians who have been prohibited from traveling. The measure was taken on the orders of Interior Minister 'Abd-al-Halim Musa after some of the extremists involved in the recent Dayrut incidents succeeded in escaping to Libya, taking advantage of the fact that travel between the two countries requires only an identity card.

A security source in Marsa Matruh stressed that this measure applies only to Egyptians, and that the checkpoint is recording the names of those traveling both to and from Libya.

Matruh Governor Kamal Mansur inspected the al-Sallum checkpoint yesterday to ensure that the measure is only being applied to Egyptians, that our Libyan brothers are being treated well, and that Libyan vehicles are allowed to pass without any delay.

Assembly Approves Anti-Terrorism Bill

NC1507170492 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 1400 GMT 15 Jul 92

[Text] The People's Assembly today approved in principle a bill prepared by the assembly's Constitutional and Legislative Affairs Committee, amending provisions of the penal and criminal procedures laws and other laws.

The amendment outlaws the establishment of any society, committee, or group that intends to suspend the Constitution or prevent any institution or public authority from carrying out its duty. The amendment also gives the attorney general or his delegate the right to secure and examine statements of accounts and deposits of anyone suspected of breaking this law.

The amendment also calls for stiffer sentences for those convicted of trading, manufacturing, or importing weapons and ammunition.

Justice Minister Faruq Sayf-al-Nasr commented on the bill, saying that the current situation in Egypt revealed a deficiency in the system insofar as prosecuting those suspected of terrorist crimes. That is why, he added, it was necessary to introduce legislation to deal with dangerous criminal cases. He noted that none of the bill's provisions run contrary to the Constitution.

The session was adjourned until this evening, when the People's Assembly will begin debating the bill's articles.

Al-Jihad Leader Cooperating With Authorities

NC1607040192 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 12 Jul 92 p 1

[Excerpts] Yesterday at dawn, security forces ambushed and arrested Jamal Farghali Haridi, commander of the al-Jihad organization's military wing in Dayrut, in al-Matariyah in Cairo, along with four other extremists. Haridi is suspected of leading the Sanabu massacre [two months ago in which 16 people were killed]. [passage omitted]

An AL-AHRAM correspondent has learned that the security forces have obtained extremely important information from the defendant about the Asyut incidents, including motive, the names of those who took part, and how the groups obtain arms and funds. The defendant also gave names of other al-Jihad organization leaders who fled and are currently being hunted down. A responsible security source has said that with Haridi's arrest, the security forces have eliminated the most dangerous terrorist leadership in the al-Jihad organization. [passage omitted]

Most al-Jihad Members Joining Islamic Group

NC1607045292 Cairo ROSE AL-YUSUF in Arabic 13 Jul 92 p 17

[Report by Khalid Dawud]

[Text] According to sources in the Islamic Group [al-Jama'ah al-Islamiyah] in Asyut and Cairo, 'Abbud al-Zumur, a prominent leader of the al-Jihad organization imprisoned since 1981 in connection with the assassination of al-Sadat, has joined the Islamic Group along with most other al-Jihad members.

According to the same sources, only a few al-Jihad members still refuse to join the Islamic Group.

Al-Baz Holds Talks With PLO's Abu-Mazin

NC1607055092 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1258 GMT 15 Jul 92

[Text] Cairo, 15 Jul (MENA)—Dr. Usamah al-Baz, Foreign Ministry first under secretary and director of the President's Office for Political Affairs, met today with PLO Executive Committee member Mahmud 'Abbas, alias Abu-Mazin, who is currently visiting Cairo. After the meeting, Abu-Mazin said that the meeting dealt with the Middle East peace process.

Commenting on Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin's statement to the Knesset, 'Abbas said that Rabin spoke on two main points, transitional autonomy and elections, adding: "These are positive issues and must be the basis of the negotiations that will soon be held between the Palestinians and Israel." He pointed out that there are numerous areas of disagreement to be discussed during the negotiations, such as the settlements and Jerusalem. He stressed the need to focus on Rabin's two points to test the extent of his credibility. 'Abbas denied that the Arab position was lagging behind Rabin's proposals. On the contrary, the Arabs prepared the ground for the peace process by agreeing to the negotiations in Madrid and Washington and accepting international legitimacy and U.S. guarantees.

On Rabin's invitation to the heads of state involved in the peace process to visit Israel, 'Abbas said: We prefer to continue with the internationally approved bilateral and multilateral negotiations. He stressed the Palestinians' adherence to this method. He said that the U.S. Administration is serious about achieving a peaceful settlement in the Middle East.

'Abbas pointed out that the meeting the Palestinian leadership will hold in Tunis on Tuesday is designed to assess the situation following the Israeli elections. He said that there is a need to study the new climate in Israel following the elections and the fall of the Shamir government. He stressed that if Israel adopts a rational and objective position, the Palestinian and Arab position will become more rational, objective, and flexible.

He described the clashes between the resistance groups in the occupied territories as a "negative phenomenon." He said that the dispute has been contained and high-level meetings will be held between the parties concerned to lay the foundations for future cooperation. He expressed his hope that the various groups will exchange views in a democratic way, without resorting to arms.

Sudan

Armed Forces To Strike Other Garang Strongholds

EA1507222092 Omdurman Sudan Broadcasting Service Network in Arabic 1930 GMT 14 Jul 92

[Text] Major General Muhammad 'Abdallah Uwaydah, the official spokesman of the Armed Forces, has said Torit was the rebel movement's strategic, political, and administrative position. Its liberation was therefore a great victory in that the rebel movement had placed all its hopes in Torit, banking on being able to use it to curb the victories of the Armed Forces. Maj. Gen. Uwaydah stressed that the Armed Forces now had the advantage on all fighting fronts and that the security situation was totally stable. He added conditions in Juba were absolutely normal.

The official spokesman of the Armed Forces declared that the next step would be to strike at the rebel Garang in Kajo Kaji, Nimule, and Kaia.

Army Official Reports Garang Escape From Torit

EA1507115092 Khartoum SUNA in English 1030 GMT 15 Jul 92

[Text] Khartoum, 15 Jul (SUNA)—Deputy chairman of the military intelligence, Brig Kamal Ali Mukhtar, has explained that rebel John Garang was in Torit, and the Armed Forces information emphasised the existence of rebel John Garang at Khawr Dulayb area where he was protecting himself by underground barriers and shelters and was accompanied by 48 soldiers.

Mukhtar stated that the rebel Garang and his men escaped at the last moments of the destruction of his defence line by the Armed Forces. They left behind their weapons, ammunition [and] cars which the Armed Forces have occupied later.

Brig Mukhtar added that the defeated rebel forces escaped to Ganda Zairae and other border areas, and the Armed Forces will pursue the rebels and crush them completely.

Al-Bashir Receives Envoy, Message From Chad

EA1507205092 Khartoum SUNA in English 0946 GMT 14 Jul 92

[Text] Khartoum, 14th July (SUNA)— The chairman of the RCC, [Revolution Command Council] Gen 'Umar al-Bashir, received a written message Monday [13 July] from the Chadian president, Idriss Deby. The message was delivered by the deputy chairman of the Chadian consultative council, Maldoum Mibdo Abbas, who arrived here Monday evening on an official visit to the country. The Chadian official was received at the airport by the speaker of the Transitional National Council, Muhammad al-Amin Khalifah, and some of the council's members.

[Omdurman Sudan Broadcasting Service Network in Arabic at 1700 GMT on 15 July also reports: Lieutenant General 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir, chairman of the RCC and of the Council of Ministers, met in his office at the General Secretariat of the Council of Ministers at noon today his excellency the speaker [as heard] of the Chadian National Assembly. After the meeting, the speaker of the Chadian National Assembly said he had delivered a message to Lt. Gen al-Bashir from his counterpart, the Chadian president, Idriss Deby, on the developing relations between the two brotherly countries and the need to cooperate in the agricultural and security spheres. The speaker of the Chadian National Assembly said Lt. Gen. al-Bashir had stressed the firmness of the relations between the two countries and the need to cooperate in all spheres. The speaker of the Chadian National Assembly added that he had congratulated Lt. Gen. al-Bashir on the recovery of Torit [word indistinct]."

Tunisia

Al-Nahdah Movement Trial Resumes 13 Jul

LD1307190292 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1215 GMT 13 Jul 92

[Text] Tunis, 13 Jul (KUNA)—The Tunisian military court resumed its sessions in the Bouchoucha military barracks (suburb of Tunis) here today to hear another batch of military and civilian defendants belonging to the banned al-Nahdah Movement. The charges against the accused in this case, which opened last Thursday, are: Attempt to change the regime; assassinating the president of the republic; and a range of other charges which call for sentences from the death penalty to one year in jail, with varying fines.

The number of those detained in this case is 171 persons, members and leaders of the al-Nahdah opposition movement, 45 of whom are still on the run, prominent among whom is Rached Ghannouchi, the chairman of the movement. The defendants seemingly have a tendency rather to refuse to answer the questions of the court, just as they did at last Saturday's hearing, when most of the accused refused to speak to the court before seeing their lawyers. The court has adopted the view that because the accused have refused to answer its questions this will not impede the trial progress as much as it will harm the interests of the accused themselves.

It should be mentioned that a second military court last Friday postponed hearings to the 27th of this month in a similar case involving 108 defendants, 21 of whom are on the run, after defense lawyers asked to be allowed to see their clients and to familiarize themselves with the files of their cases. Among the accused figure leaders of the al-Nahdah Movement, including its official spokesman Ali Laaridh, military men of various ranks, alongside security men and border guards.

Islamists Deny Coup Plot

LD1407093392 Paris Radio France International in French 0630 GMT 14 Jul 92

[Text] In Tunisia, the trial of al-Nahdah movement Islamists, who are being tried for their breach of state security, reached its fifth day yesterday. After having refused in the beginning to answer the court's questions in protest against the lack of contact with their lawyers, the defendants, who won the case, decided to talk again. They all denied that their movement planned a plot to overthrow the government and assassinate President Ben Ali. The defendants also all complained about police torture, which resulted, according to them, in fabricated confessions.

Ben Ali, U.S. Official Discuss Regional Issues

LD1107171692 Rabat MAP in English 1254 GMT 11 Jul 92

[Text] Tunis, Jul 11 (MAP)—Tunisian President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali met here Friday visiting U.S. deputy secretary of state in charge of the Middle East and African affairs Edward Djerejian.

The U.S. official termed as "fruitful"" his talks with the Tunisian head of state precising they raised regional issues and the Arab-Israeli peace process. Djerejian stressed similarity of views by the two countries on major issues.

Foreign Minister's Letter Protests UN Blockade

JN1507150892 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1052 GMT 15 Jul 92

["Text" of letter addressed by Foreign Minister Ahmad Husayn to UN Secretary General Dr. Butrus Ghali on 11 July]

[Text] Your Excellency UN Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali, New York: Your Excellency: Since 2 August 1990, the UN Security Council has been preoccupied with the so-called issue of the situation between Iraq and Kuwait. Since that date, the Council has issued several resolutions committing Iraq to a host of obligations, in accordance with which a specified relationship has been established between the Council and Iraq. This relationship is supposed to be governed by the provisions of the UN Charter. Following this long period, the time has come to confirm certain facts, particularly those that cannot be misinterpreted. Among these facts are the following:

First: The UN Charter, like any other charter linking independent states that enjoy full sovereignty, consists of two parts: namely, rights and duties. The provisions of the UN Charter are balanced in this regard, or they are so viewed. Based on this, when the UN Security Council asks any state to perform its duties toward it, then the UN Security Council should safeguard the rights of this state. We note regarding the UN Security Council's relationship with Iraq that regardless of the issue or the extent of congruence between the UN Security Council resolutions and the clauses of the UN Charter—something which was discussed in the several memorandums we addressed to the UN secretary general—Iraq has abided by these resolutions after it was forced to implement them, and that it has actually implemented them in accordance with the way we presented them to the UN Security Council in our letter to you on 23 January 1992, and during the visit to New York by an Iraqi delegation led by Deputy Prime Minister Tariq 'Aziz in March 1992. Iraq, through the deputy prime minister, has stressed its readiness to seriously and constructively cooperate with the UN Security Council and its representative institutions to continue to implement these resolutions.

The following are some of the most important results achieved with regard to the implementation of Resolution 687:

1. The destruction of all the weapons found in Iraq's possession banned by Resolution 687; namely, the missiles with ranges that exceed 150 km as well as Iraq's chemical weapons arsenal.

2. The destruction of the installations and equipment related to the production of long-range missiles as well as the installations and equipment which are related to the use of chemical weapons.

3. Iraq has not produced any bacteriological or biological weapons. This been proven scientifically and technically. The equipment which could be said to be capable of producing such weapons has been destroyed.

4. The installations and equipment related to the Iraqi nuclear program, around which doubts and accusations were raised, have been destroyed.

5. The competent Iraqi authorities have provided a large part of the information requested by inspection teams. Similarly, they answered thousands of questions put by these teams.

The information about which there are still disputes concern the requests made by the Special Committee and the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] to provide them with lists of names of the foreign firms from which Iraq purchased some equipment and material needed for its arms programs, as well as the names of foreign nationals who cooperated with Iraq in these programs. Iraq apologized for the failure to provide such information out of an ethical position. It will not abandon this position. Disclosing the names of the foreign firms and nationals with which and whom Iraq cooperated would expose many of them to dangers of liquidation by Israeli intelligence, as happened to some, such as Dr. Bull [the "supergun" designer].

In light of the aforementioned facts, he who requests Iraq to honor its obligations or to honor the commitments imposed on it should show concern, more than others, for Iraq's inalienable rights as enshrined in the UN Charter. Furthermore, he must demonstrate clear evidence of such concern.

The failure of the Security Council to show such a balance renders unsound the legal grounds used by the Security Council in the passage of its resolutions, whose implementation is being demanded from Iraq and others. Consequently, the continued honoring of commitments to the Security Council resolutions by any country becomes devoid of strong convictions on the part of the country concerned. This makes the countries linked to the Security Council, including Iraq, examine what is possible and impossible, using a rule based on ability and opportunity in handling the commitments generated by the Security Council, rather than opt for honoring the firm determinants governing relations between the Council and the countries concerned.

The reason lies in the fact that the Council itself has violated the legal rule and resorted to the rule of what is possible or not possible, particularly through its insistence on threatening the use of force as an alternative to the policy of understanding according to the UN Charter, and its insistence on depriving the people of Iraq of the simplest human rights stipulated by the Charter.

Second: If, for the sake of reaching an official conviction, we deal with the accusations leveled by some of the Council's member states, which want to depict Iraq's

abidance by the resolutions as incomplete and to use this accusation as a pretext to continue the blockade against Iraq, we say that nobody can deny the commitments Iraq has thus far implemented. Therefore, maintaining the blockade on Iraq means that any level of implementation will not change the continuing embargo: that is, implementation and non-implementation will be the same. In the wake of this experience, can the Security Council convince the world states, including Iraq, that there is reason to implement its resolutions?

Third: The UN Charter stated that man's right to living is guaranteed, but this right has now become relative in view of requirements. The human being, unlike animals, cannot be content with a certain type or amount of food in order to live. It goes without saying that the Charter viewed human beings equally regardless of their nationality or country. Therefore, other essential rights have emerged as inevitable so that man can live a life that materializes the human essence of the UN Charter, including the level of cleanliness, the kind of water used in daily life, the level of hygiene he should enjoy, and other basic needs. Hence, the standards by which these basic needs can be achieved are supposed to be on the level of human needs in developed states.

With the continuation of the blockade imposed on Iraq on 6 August 1990—a blockade which has not changed from the starting point despite the fact that Kuwait has returned to the way it was wanted by those who showed enthusiasm and were pushed toward the Security Council resolutions—and because Iraq's funds are practically still not freed due to the stands taken by those states where these funds are deposited; and for other reasons, the idea of exporting a quantity of Iraqi oil within six months came up in 1991 in order to buy food and medicine for the people of Iraq. Although this target is meager not only in comparison with Iraq's true needs in all areas, but also in comparison with the Iraqi people's urgent human needs that guarantee the minimum level of their humanness in accordance with the UN Charter, that idea turned into two resolutions issued by the Security Council in accordance with Chapter 7. These are Resolutions 706 and 712, which contained many political and practical conditions and restictions that are meant to rob the Iraqi people of their sovereignty, which they obtained a long time ago and for which they resisted the old and new colonialists.

The thing has recently turned into debates, negotiations, and pressures that continued for almost one year. And here we now see ourselves in the second half of 1992 without securing the Iraqi people's basic and pressing needs for the second half of 1991. The progress of the negotiations held with the representatives of the UN General Secretariat between January and June 1992 has prompted us to come to a conclusion based on facts and information to the effect that the formula meant to be forced on Iraq has nothing to do with the humane purpose of securing a percentage of the pressing humanitarian needs for the Iraqi people and that the purpose is not to implement the UN Charter vis-a-vis this issue, but rather to harm Iraq's independence, interfere in its domestic affairs, and control its future according to the illegitimate wishes of some countries which are wielding influence at the Security Council—no more and no less.

The last formula submitted to us after three rounds of negotiations between UN and Iraqi representatives contains a very long series of restrictions and complications which renders doubtful the possibility of the Iraqi people benefiting from the revenues of the oil to be exported within six months for the purpose of purchasing food and medicine. The numerous restrictions and complications entailed in the aforementioned formula exposes the processes of buying, loading, and distributing food and medicine to various possibilities of obstruction and cancellation, not to mention the fact that suppliers who could provide Iraq with such supplies would demand high prices for these supplies due to these complications and also because contracts could be canceled and interfered with—something which could reduce the actual purchasing power of the original meager amount Iraq would hypothetically make from such a weird process. Each and every step of the way, regardless of how small it is in the aforementioned process, is governed by control as well as the consent or rejection of numerous parties: the Security Council's Sanctions Committee, the monitors to be stationed at the oil exporting point, the observers who would inventory the commodities at the point of origin and the point of arrival in Iraq, and the observers whose presence the United Nations wants to impose inside Iraq, not to mention the banking complications entailed in the formula.

In fact, the only thing that is guaranteed in the process is the sums they want to deduct from Iraq to pay so-called reparations and expenses for UN activities, which total more than 30 percent of the sums made available by selling oil.

Therefore, and after studying this issue in a responsible manner, we find that the people of Iraq would not achieve any of their pressing human demands from this process, which will as a matter of fact be a deception of world public opinion, by depicting matters as though the blockade on Iraq has been eased even though this is not the case.

Therefore, the practical and sound approach that eliminates all doubts and suspicions—in addition to the fact that it meets the criteria set by all human charters, including the UN Charter—is that the Security Council should allow Iraq to export its oil naturally and according to standard procedures, just as it did before the events of August 1990. This way its people will enjoy their human rights.

If the United Nations wants to deduct a specified sum, such as that imposed by the Security Council in its resolutions, this will be agreed upon in accordance with a method and approach that are not complicated. But if the Council finds that there is anything that requires denying Iraq any commodity for whatever reason, it can

ask the world countries to abide by this approach, if this is the only goal being sought. Iraq is also willing, as it has indicated before, to limit, for an agreed-upon period, its sales and purchases to the UN Security Council member states, most of which are states which Iraq had done business with before the blockade was imposed on it. The states that participate in issuing the resolutions and monitoring their implementation will monitor the sound trade transactions conducted by Iraq in accordance with trade regulations.

Fourth: It is clear and evident that the Security Council has based its resolutions on the issue of Kuwait, or at least this is what it announced to world public opinion. Among its resolutions were the resolutions on the blockade against Iraq. It is also evident that according to what has been mentioned, Iraq has met its commitments toward Security Council resolutions in accordance with what we have referred to.

Regardless of everything, it is evident that Kuwait has been restored the way the influential parties at the Security Council wanted. Therefore, the continuation of the blockade against Iraq has lost its meaning. The issue has simply become that of harming a great, unyielding, deep-rooted people.

Such an action is neither declared nor hinted at in the UN Charter or Security Council resolutions. In addition, its continuation, as we have said under "First," nullifies the legal basis of the Security Council's resolutions and gives Iraq the right, if it wants, to deal with the Security Council's resolutions in light of its capability and opportunity rather than the convincing legal commitment.

Therefore, we believe that the Security Council should end the validity of all its resolutions, which were created against Iraq by the circumstances of the previous stage, including the validity of the blockade resolution and restore the matters that prevailed before the events of August 1990.

If somebody says that the continuation of the blockade will achieve the Security Council's declared goals, then this will at least throw the Security Council into an embarrassing contradiction, because influential sides in the Security Council have previously persuaded some that there is no way to implement Security Council resolutions without using military force against Iraq. Some actually used the military force on the evening of 16 January 1991. This continued until the leader of the campaign ceased fire.

If the blockade is the Security Council's way to implement the goals it wants, why did it expose the international community to all this and expose the Iraqi people to the ordeal of aggression and harm? Please accept our appreciation.

[signed] Ahmad Husayn, foreign minister of the Republic of Iraq

[dated] Baghdad, 11 July 1992

Minister Criticizes 'Provocative' UN Action

JN1507200292 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1700 GMT 15 Jul 92

[Text] Baghdad, 15 Jul (INA)—Agriculture and Irrigation Minister 'Abd-al-Wahhab Mahmud al-Sabbagh today met with delegations of nongovernmental organizations and societies in Iraq, who visited the ministry building to acquaint themselves with the nature of its work and to refute allegations by the scoundrel members of the international inspection team stationed in front of the ministry.

The minister explained to the members of the nongovernmental organizations and societies, who toured the ministry's sections and departments and acquainted themselves with the nature of their work, that the scoundrel members of the international inspection team have committed mistakes while carrying out their inspection mission and that their provocative practices have disrupted the ministry's work and its civilian mission intended to serve farmers and peasants.

The minister urged the delegation to reveal the facts to world public opinion, as well as the inspection team's provocative practices, which are viewed as a link in conspiracy against the Iraqi people.

During the meeting, the representatives of the humanitarian nongovernmental organizations said that they had not found anything confirming the international inspection team's allegations and stressed that these provocative actions by the members of the international inspection team is an exposed attempt to pressure Iraq.

Engineers Protest UN Team

NC1007183492 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1715 GMT 10 Jul 92

[Text] Baghdad, 10 Jul (INA)—The agricultural engineers this evening organized a demonstration on foot outside the Agriculture and Irrigation Ministry to denounce and protest the deployment of the UN inspection team outside the ministry building.

In placards and slogans they raised during the procession, the agricultural engineers denounced the provocative actions of this team wishing to search the ministry's civilian building, contrary to the UN Security Council resolutions.

In a statement to INA during the demonstration, Muhammad Tahir al-Hiyali, chairman of the union of agricultural engineers, affirmed that this behavior by the U.S. Administration in conducting UN policy according to the wishes and orders of the criminal Bush is decisive proof that the actions of the current inspection committee, which is besieging the Agriculture and Irrigation Ministry building, constitutes flagrant intervention in Iraq's internal affairs.

He affirmed that the Iraqi agricultural engineers reject this behavior and pledge to President Saddam Husayn to remain faithful and defend Iraq's dignity, independence, and principles.

Muhammad Abu-'Abbas [as received], deputy chairman of the union of Jordanian agricultural engineers, condemned the action of the UN inspection team and described it as irresponsible and having no connection with the United Nations or its resolutions.

He told INA that these provocations are part of the means used by the U.S. Administration to interfere in Iraq's internal affairs. He affirmed that the Jordanian people are in total solidarity with the Iraqi people and demand that the unjust blockade on it be lifted.

[Baghdad INA in Arabic at 1710 GMT on 10 July carries the following related report: "The sons of Arab Egypt this morning organized a march to denounce and protest the deployment of a UN inspection team in front of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation and provocative acts carried out in violation of the simplest international and human norms and rules.

["The demonstrators raised placards and shouted slogans denouncing the UN inspection team's provocative acts and expressing pride in the unique leadership of President Saddam Husayn. They expressed their determination to continue to confront the aggressiveness aimed at starving the valiant Iraqi people.

["The demonstrators submitted a protest note to the supervisor of UN operations in Iraq."]

Envoy to UN Discusses Crop Burning With Press

JN1107100692 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0900 GMT 11 Jul 92

[Text] New York, 11 Jul (INA)—Iraq's [UN] mission has disclosed details of the U.S.-British crime of burning agricultural crops in Iraq. The official in charge of the Iraqi mission said at a news conference that the Governments of the United States and the United Kingdom assume complete international responsibility for this crime and for the payment of compensation for the material and human losses which resulted from this.

The Iraqi official added that U.S. and British planes fired flares daily at wheat and barley fields in villages of the Ninawa Governorate, setting fire to 7,600 tonnes of agricultural produce.

The Iraqi envoy said that enemy planes, two days ago, had even tried to set fire to the Mosul sugar plant in the same way as planes fired flares on the plant but failed to hit it directly.

The Iraqi official said these crimes are part of the suspect attempts to undermine stability in Iraq and harm the Iraqi people for illegitimate political reasons.

The Iraqi mission screened a video during the news conference of the U.S.-British crime in which F-16 and Jaguar planes are seen dropping flares on wheat and barley fields, setting large areas of these fields ablaze.

The video shows the losses sustained from this U.S.-British crime and the damages sustained by the farmers and their equipment.

Turkish 'Intervention' in Kurdistan Criticized

JN1607114592 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1030 GMT 16 Jul 92

[Text] Commenting today on a speech delivered by Turkish President Turgut Ozal before a group of Turkish businessmen, Foreign Minister Ahmad Husayn said: Since the beginning of the so-called Gulf crisis, Mr. Turgut Ozal has adopted a stand that contravenes the principles of good-neighborliness and the traditional relations between Iraq and Turkey. He also became a U.S. propaganda trumpet in the region and one of America's tools to implement its vicious colonialist schemes not only against Iraq, but against the region as a whole.

The foreign minister added: Many quarters in Turkish public opinion have condemned and denounced this personal stand by Ozal, and expressed this stand through practical, tangible steps. The minister said: Mr. Ozal offers no service to his country and the regional states and their security and stability when he adopts stands that are designed in U.S. departments. Regional officials serve their countries and region in a sound manner when they think and act independently from U.S. and Western schemes, and when they show concern for relations of good-neighborliness and friendliness between peoples of the region.

The foreign minister affirmed that Ozal has been one of the most ardent instigators of the 30-state aggression, which Iraq has confronted most courageously. He stressed that Iraq knows exactly how to defend its sovereignty and national unity against the schemes of America's men and tools in the region.

In his address to a group of Turkish businessmen, President Ozal called for explicit Turkish intervention in the Kurdistan region in northern Iraq to help the United States and to enable Turkey to contain the Kurds in that region.

Kurdish Leader on Turkish Raids, PKK, Embargo

NC1007195892 Istanbul HURRIYET in Turkish 7 Jul 92 p 18

[Aziz Utkan and Naci Sapan report from Irbil and al-Sulaymaniyah: "Kurdish Government: Turkey Must Halt Its Military Operations"]

[Text] The Kurdish government's first move was to call on Turkey to halt its cross-border operations against the Kurdish Workers Party [PKK] in Northern Iraq. Dr.

Fu'ad Ma'sum, prime minister of the first Kurdish government, which was established in Irbil two days ago, claimed that innocent civilians are killed in Turkey's cross-border operations against northern Iraq.

Ma'sum was unanimously elected to head the Kurdish government by the 105-seat Kurdish Autonomous Assembly. He gave his first statement to HURRIYET. Ma'sum noted that they wished to remain part of Iraq, work to establish stability in the region, and obstruct the PKK's armed activities against Turkey from northern Iraq. He also disclosed that his government will ask the Kurdish Autonomous Assembly to approve the decision the Kurdish Front adopted some time ago "to restrict the PKK's activities."

Kurdistan Is Open to All Kurds

Prime Minister Ma'sum asserted that every Kurd, regardless of where he lives, has the right to settle in Iraqi Kurdistan. Ma'sum was careful to express his views in Kurdish. Ayad Namik Bekkal, deputy from al-Sulaymaniyah, translated Prime Minister Ma'sum's views into English. At one point, Bekkal said: "PKK members may be allowed to remain in Iraqi Kurdistan as political refugees."

Prime Minister Ma'sum said that the peshmergas will be reorganized as regular units and they will be used to establish a border security command. He noted that Kemal Mufti, a former commander of the Kurdish guerrilla units, has been appointed to the Ministry of Peshmerga Affairs and said that the peshmergas affiliated with the other Kurdish parties will be brought under this command during the next few days. Ma'sum asserted: "It would be narrow-minded of us to break away from Iraq and establish an independent state. We have placed weight on economic and humanitarian matters in our government program. We want the UN Security Council decision on the imposition of an embargo on Iraq to be changed. It was not the Kurds who attacked Kuwait. Our people are suffering because of the UN embargo and the embargo Saddam Husayn has imposed on the Kurds. Prices have increased significantly. We are trying to manage with the commodities we have been receiving from Turkey in return for gasoline and diesel oil. We have not been able to undertake any serious reconstruction work. Only 200 of the 500 bulldozers we have can be operated. The others cannot be used because we do not have spare parts. We want the UN embargo to be lifted so we can meet our needs."

'Chaos' Places Kurdistan on 'Brink of Volcano'

JN1507104492 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0740 GMT 15 Jul 92

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 15 Jul (INA)—BABIL stresses that our people in the autonomous region of Kurdistan are yearning to return to the lap of the homeland and to get rid of the life of misery and humiliation.

In a report headlined "Kurdistan on the Brink of a Volcano", appearing in today's issue, BABIL says the powerful and influential persons, and the brokers and black market traders, control foodstuffs and own spacious palaces and luxurious cars, leaving the miserable masses begging foreigners in the region for a loaf of bread.

The paper says that high prices, and the absence of monthly salaries—which are withheld by the influential figures—have forced the people of the region to accept a little food assistance as an alternative to cash; many groups of beggars have emerged in the region.

The paper stresses that miserable camps are found in the major cities and in border towns. They contain jobless families that search through garbage for their daily bread.

It notes that the Kurdish families are complaining from these tragic conditions, which result from the exceptional situation currently experienced by Kurdistan. [passage omitted]

BABIL notes that shameful acts and excesses against the homeland and citizens have appeared in Arabic and Kurdish language newspapers published in Tehran and Damascus. It points out that the agents have admitted the state of chaos and trading in the people and wealth of the homeland through cheap deals concluded with the foreigners. Moreover, drugs have spread in the region, and networks of drug users and traffickers have been formed.

The paper stresses that the cities in northern Iraq now stand on the brink of a volcano. Hunger and disease forced the influential quarters there to hold expanded meetings with citizens and to distribute some relief material to calm them down.

Rebels Claim 2 Intelligence Officers Killed

NC1507193292 (Clandestine) Voice of the Kurdistan Revolution Radio in Arabic 1715 GMT 15 Jul 92

[Text] Several operations have been launched recently against the regime's agents in the al-Basrah, al-'Amarah, and Baghdad Governorates. A statement issued by the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq says that popular forces have killed two officers in charge of the regime's intelligence agencies in al-Basrah and Baghdad. Several army personnel were also killed in an exchange of gunfire between a regime's patrol and a group of the popular forces in al-'Amarah Governorate.

Husayn Kamil Hasan Receives Cuban Official

JN1507171692 Baghdad INA in English 1600 GMT 15 Jul 92

[Text] Baghdad, July 15 INA—General Husayn Kamil Hasan the president's adviser and supervisor on the

industry and oil sectors today received the Cuban delegation chaired by Professor Alvarez Cambras member of the Central Committee of the Cuban Communist Party.

The president's adviser explained efforts exerted by employees of oil and industry sectors to rebuild what has been destroyed and damaged by the U.S.-led coalition war which targeted the scientific institutions and the economic infrastructure in Iraq.

He confirmed that the UN-imposed economic blockade would never dishearten the determination of the Iraqis who vowed to turn this blockade into a fuel to build the country.

Saddam Congratulates to New Austrian President

JN0807122492 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1030 GMT 8 Jul 92

["Text" of cable of congratulations from Iraqi President Saddam Husayn to Austrian Federal President Thomas Klestil "on the occasion of his assumption of his constitutional powers;" date not given]

[Text] Your Excellency Thomas Klestil, federal president of the Republic of Austria: On the occasion of your assumption of your constitutional powers as Austrian president, it pleases me to send your excellency our congratulations, wishing you success in your tasks and the Austrian people further progress and prosperity.

[signed] Saddam Husayn, president of the Republic of Iraq

Saddam Chairs Meeting on Education—Part 1

JN1407115792 Baghdad AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 12 Jul 92 p 3

["Text" of the "first part" of the proceedings of a meeting chaired by President Saddam Husayn examining the state of higher education in Iraq, on 11 July; place not given]

[Text] I want to elaborate on the things I underlined in the report, and there are other things that I would like you to explain.

What I want to explain to you at this meeting is that there are consistent yardsticks against which patriotic action must be measured, especially with regard to the manner in which the state acts toward its citizens. Most important of these yardsticks is that it is not right for us to regard citizens equally, at least insofar as special rights are concerned, although by law they are equal. There should not be equality in absolute terms between two citizens, one of whom carried an especially heavy burden in hard times, while the other was spared similar circumstances.

We cannot speak of a citizen who has acted with a sense of responsibility toward his country and carried the burden of two wars in the same breath as we do another who has chosen to stay aloof from the homeland. The latter may have been convinced of the reasons why he decided on this course of action, but that does not, and should not, entitle him to any privileges. In general, though, he should enjoy the same rights as his fellow citizens, but when the state decides to confer special rights, these should be clearly defined.

So, how do we go about granting these special rights?

In other words, how are they to be viewed by others?

When you approved this issue you did so for personal considerations. Specifically, you want holders of advanced degrees to return home so that they may contribute to the national effort. If you appreciate this, ordinary citizens may not be so appreciative. A university professor may complain by saying that he does not know how things are run in our country, that he has been here for so many years, has been exposed to all the risks of the road the country has taken, and then the state gives preferential treatment to someone else. I think that approach will upset the balance of the relationship between the state and the individual.

I, therefore, will never approve their enjoyment of special privileges that give them distinction over their fellow citizens in Iraq.

This subject has come before me several times, and I have turned it down and will continue to do so. Requests have been made for the granting of economic privileges for Iraqis residing abroad, and my answer has been: Let us discuss whether we should reexamine our economic laws to see whether certain Iraqis should be allowed to enjoy new rights not provided for by law.

But to give privileges to expatriate Iraqis, some of whom have acquired citizenship in other countries, the leadership of Iraq would undermine the social, psychological, and legal foundations of our society. You have proposed that expatriates be allotted a piece of land, among other privileges.

The answer to this request is "no," except for those who are studying on state scholarships. We are all for allocating land to university teachers. This is the right approach. An expatriate who returns home to join one of our universities will automatically own a piece of land. However, to appropriate a piece of land for himself, when another teacher—who has been with us and had to face dangers and injustice with us—has yet to enjoy this privilege, is just not right.

On the question of the state covering the expenses of the return of those who have acquired masters or doctorate degrees and their families to the country, the leader president said:

Where shall we get the necessary foreign currency? Some of you, including those who have written this report, already know that. You know all about it. This matter, given the current circumstances, is almost impossible. Shall we try to improve conditions with those states that

have frozen our funds? Shall we tell them, for example, that we need $500,000 to pay for people studying in your countries, on the hope that, somehow, they would remember basic human law? Although the West appeared in a very ugly light—more than expected—during its air raids on Baghdad, the West's new behavior is even uglier than the raids. However, we say that some states may respond to the calculations of short- or long-term interests and agree to release $500,000 or $1 million to facilitate the return of people studying there on scholarships from the state, so that they can meet their obligations toward their universities. The circumstances of those people and their country have not allowed them to return home. Do not expect us to give you anything to make it possible for you to help those studying abroad and their families to return home. We have priorities. Food comes first—food that meets human needs under the blockade circumstances, not food for luxurious purposes under normal circumstances. This includes the basics, which are flour, oil, tea, sugar, and other items on the ration card. Such matters are of prime importance to us. This is because if a man does not eat, he cannot behave or think in a balanced manner. The ration card guarantees that Iraqis can work actively and think and behave in a balanced manner. Certainly, items not on the ration card are needed. Were they not needed, they would not exist. However, our circumstances make us decide that the availability of such items be in accordance with individuals' ability, not in light of the state's commitment to the public.

Regarding a pledge by the state to foreign universities to pay their claims, the leader president said:

Such a pledge can be given to foreign universities, given the fact that tuition fees demanded from masters and doctorate students, whose expenses are covered by the state, are debts which Iraq will pay when circumstances improve. This will also facilitate their acquisition of degrees and their return home. This is a good point. However, after the lesson we learned in the international arena, we should precisely define these pledges within their legal, financial, and banking considerations. If such pledges remain unspecified, they may be tampered with. Some selfish people may convince a university to claim that it spent so-and-so an amount of money on him. Why should we accept that our country and people be harmed? So let us be careful about that. Universities have specific terms in their contracts. If terms are specified in contracts, they should be honored. Contracts should be honored. There is no harm in that.

New claims could be made through subsequent contracts or through other means. For example, a university may claim that it spent a specified sum of money on students. This harms you, as a society and a state. Therefore, caution is required in this regard. After this clarification, I approve this point in principle.

On the subject of developing buildings at the educational institutions, the president leader said: In Iraq's modern history, and ever since the establishment of the Iraqi state, this is the first time that a director general has paid attention to how to build the roof of a plant before taking care of his own office. In the past, when we wanted to build a plant in the mixed sector, the director general used to first pay attention to the design of his own office, on the assumption that he would have to spend all of his time in that office and that he would have nothing to do with the other parts of the plant. That is why he used to pay too much attention to the furnishing of his office. After this, he used to pay more attention to those working in administration instead of those working in the production sectors. Now, after the aggression, this is the first time in Iraq's history that the people have proceeded to repair what was destroyed in the plant and restore it to its previous state.

This is something that neither the director general, the minister, nor those officials in lower echelons used to worry about. But now, they do not ask, for example, when the office of the director general will be complete, or what type of furniture it will have.

I believe many of you have been abroad. When I go abroad, I see what is outside my car when I move from one place to another, or from one meeting to the other. My trips abroad are limited because I do not like to travel. Everyone has his own likes and dislikes. However, I assume that all of you have seen what is taking place abroad. Those of you who work in the industrial field have gone abroad to negotiate with foreign companies. You may have seen the office of a company manager, the office of the plant's director, and the plant itself. You have certainly noticed how they pay attention to basic things, while we still confuse what is essential and what is not. Let us say that we have to build a cool area in the summer and a heated one in winter to enable those, whose work requires mental concentration, to work in comfort. We can provide such an atmosphere with the simplest means of construction, that is to say, its cost would be less than if other materials and specifications were to be used.

When we want to establish universities, we can establish universities with simple construction methods and at a minimum cost. Thus, we can build four universities for the normal cost of one. By doing so, we would not be deviating from our objective. Our objective is to provide a location where there can be some kind of psychological tranquility for students and professors. We can accommodate a certain number of students in good classrooms over a period of four or five years, and graduate as many students as those who were enrolled in the first year. This is our objective; an objective that can be achieved by using prefabricated construction panels. The first type of building can last 25 years. We can, for example, complete construction of 10 universities every year, or 10 universities every five years. But, if we opt for the second method, we can build only one university every five years. Which is better: 10 universities or one university?

Some may say that the second choice may last longer and this is more economical. No, this is not so. The economic

aspects are only relative. Sometimes, circumstances compel us to opt for something which is good from an economic point of view and which is in line with our means, if they are limited, while at other times we might say: Let us build a university that will be an historical landmark for Iraq and will last 600 years, for example.

But when can this be done? It can be done when the primary materials are made available, and when the foreign currency—which we need for our dealings with the outside world—is secured. It can be done when we set our priorities and abandon many unnecessary things in life, and when our cadres and capabilities rise up to their required levels. When this is achieved, we can establish a university that will live for 600 years. After this, such a university will be economical, in addition to its other characteristics. But under circumstances like the ones you are experiencing now, the first thing you must tell the consultant engineering offices is: You must not forget the purpose, nor use primary materials extravagantly, nor complicate designs to the point that they become a constraint on time. You must make sure that this general slogan is put into accurate practice during the design process.

In my social calculations, I believe, for example, that we ought to care about the classroom, and just as much about hygiene. But we should give more attention to the students' sanitary facilities.

We have given this as an example. It may appear marginal from the point of view of terminology, but not from your point of view, as shown in this report. I consider this to be basic. I, therefore, hope that you will give special attention to sanitary facilities for students. These should be clean and functional. The faculty dean, the head of department, or the man in charge should not only inspect his office, but also the sanitary services. The student who cannot go to the bathroom all day because it is dirty and in awful condition cannot concentrate, think properly, and pay attention to the lecturer. I assume that bathrooms in the houses of many of the students are now cleaner than the sanitary facilities in universities and colleges. I have not seen this with my own eyes for a long time, but during visits to high, intermediate, and elementary schools, I witnessed appalling conditions. By analogous conclusion, I can say the same about universities, which are only one year off from high schools. The university is a professor, a student, a lecture, a subject, a teaching aid, and so on and so forth. Looking after the student dictates that we ensure for him a standard of living near to that provided by his home. If it must be lower than the standard in his home, it must not be much lower. The comparison should be made not with rich houses, but with the average house; that is, the majority.

During my visit to the city of Mosul and the villages around it, I saw very modest buildings, many with rough exteriors. I saw small houses covered with cement so that rainwater would not leak inside. But in those simple houses, the cattle fold was built outside the house, not in the house's yard. I saw clean people. I would see an old, wornout white piece of cloth—but washed, clean, and ironed—covering a modest table. At that time, all those would not cost more than 100-150 dinars. On the other hand, I saw some people in other areas living in large houses, having high walls, but without sanitary facilities. The owners spent a lot of money on those houses, and had almost everything in them. But you would find the cattle fold inside the house. When the owner comes home at night, while it is raining, he steps on animal waste inside his house, and then steps in his own bed.

So, by simple requirements I mean that we should provide cleanliness. We are extremely backward in this. This is because the state of social backwardness lives inside us. However, I believe that the state is more backward in these matters than the society. Whenever you go to a general manager's office and then to his home, you will find that his home is cleaner than his office. So, why you do not take care of the room you live in Mr. general manager? He does not take care because his office boy, the one who serves him, does not know about cleanliness, imagining that the cleanliness he knows is the best because he sees that the general manager's sanitary facilities are cleaner than those in his own home. This means that the levels of cleanliness of the families of the office boy, general manager, and the minister are not the same. There is still great disparity between one case and another.

Here, I am addressing all Iraqis. It is not shameful to take care of these things, including teaching the office boy how to clean his hands before he touches any utensils. It is not shameful to teach him what we have learned about the cleanliness of sanitary facilities. This is because he might have come from a social class which views us as very clean. So, why should he pay much attention to this while he sees everything shining, imagining that this is what is required, that this is cleanliness, and that additional cleanliness is unnecessary.

So, we should tell the people in charge of sanitary facilities in institutes, colleges, and universities in general that these are your additional tasks. You have asked for allowances only for heads of sections. However, I want to tell you that we have given an allowance to the people in charge of sanitary facilities, an allowance for those who work at universities and institutes, of 200 dinars each plus his salary. However, you should take these allowances from them if they do not perform their duty in the best possible manner. This is after you teach them this, because they do not know it. At the same time, tell them to prepare a perfume bottle and cleaning paper and provide it to anyone who washes his hands. Tell them that if any student wants to give you a tip, we cannot tell you not to take it. So, you will have extra privileges plus your allowances. By this, you will teach them how to take care of sanitary facilities.

This applies to Baghdad Municipality. Although I do not know whether or not there are public sanitary facilities, if there are, I assume their conditions are more miserable than the sanitary facilities at universities, institutes, and

high schools. This is because students constitute an almost advanced case. If this is a general case, then the officials in charge can make them clean and good by increasing the allowances of those who supervise this kind of work, and by telling them that they are committed to what is required of them, that we appreciate them, and that they can accept tips from those who come to wash their hands...etcetera, and people are ready to tip those who clean sanitary facilities if they actually see them clean and looking good.

Some simple people might ask why this man is speaking about such an issue and preoccupying himself with it? I speak about it and preoccupy myself with it because although manufacturing a missile is important, this issue is more important to me than manufacturing a missile. This is because when the society achieves balance in its development, then we can expect from it all big and mature things. Its thinking becomes stable, and it will not digress. It is like seeing 20 people raiding a target, while 30 others are retreating from it although they belong to the same people. But why are some raiding the target while others are retreating? The reason is that their enthusiasm, in accordance with the standards which governed them at that moment, encouraged them to attack the target. The others retreated because they were not governed by similar standards.

So, we must set general national standards. We must forge them with our own hands, paragraph by paragraph, case by case so as to see 48 out of the 50 people reaching the target, with only two retreating from it. This is the normal standard adopted by all peoples on earth, and by the Iraqi people when they become mature. If the percentage of retreat of this heroic people is five, then it is because one of them is sick, another has special circumstances at home, or has an emergency. This is because these are the people of heroic deeds, the people with a history dating back 6,000 years. This people must teach the world everything, educate it about cleanliness, and teach it, just as it had taught it writing and reading, true thinking, true humanitarianism, and true nationalism. Only then will the 6,000 years of history not be a burden on them, but an incentive within their own selves, securing them the requirements of maturity and better development.

Brothers, please keep in mind the requirements which you want, including the primary materials and the volume of workers. From now on, I do not want anyone to use the word "'amalah" [meaning "workers" or "agentry"] when speaking about workers. I want you to use the word "'ummal" [workers]. Why do you use the word 'amalah? Use the word 'ummal. These words might make no difference now, but with the passage of time, there will be a difference. Why 'amalah? The word 'amalah must not exist in Iraq either in terms of comparison or expression. The workers union should have protested this long ago. This is a point against it. Why 'amalah? It should be 'ummal.

Brothers, I want you to intervene in the designs of constructions, through briefings, ideas, requirements, and on ways to achieve our objective in a design that can be implemented at the lowest cost. This what is required. If you do not have any remarks on the report, then these are my remarks on what is written. If a discussion takes place, of course, I will join you in this discussion.

Regarding the refusal to give certificates to Iraqi students studying abroad until after they pay their debts, the leader president said: Do not adhere to one method to follow up the issue. This issue must be referred to the Foreign Ministry. The Foreign Ministry must pay special attention to it. Our ambassador in the state in question must also follow up the issue daily, with the university concerned and with that state's foreign ministry. He must visit this or that minister. This is how we should conduct our work. The ambassador must not neglect this issue. The ambassador must follow it up. He must visit all related institutions. He must visit all influential sides. He must visit all Iraq's friends, for, inevitably, we have friends in the world. Moreover, we must use Arab ambassadors. Instead of having one ambassador doing the job, we will employ all Arab ambassadors in that place to work in this direction. Such a possibility exists.

Saddam Chairs Meeting—Part 2

JN1507190592 Baghdad AL-THAWRAH in Arabic 13 Jul 92 p 2

["Text" of the "second part" of remarks made by President Saddam Husayn during a meeting he chaired to discuss the state of higher education in Iraq, on 11 July; place not given]

[Text] On the proposal put forward by Staff Lieutenant General Husayn Kamil in terms of providing overseers for higher studies, providing laboratories, and the need not to wait any longer, the leader president said:

The most important number we can provide for the universities, particularly in the scientific fields, is from the atomic energy and the industrial sector; namely, the military industry, the civilian industry, and oil. I am aware of your program, both in terms of researches and in terms of the daily work in the factories or in tool manufacturing. Are we able to provide an adequate number who will perform this duty in addition to their own duties? This is what counts, otherwise we have a number of persons on whom and on whose scientific standards we can depend because they used to teach at universities.

Some of the university teachers completed their bachelor's degree, then their master's, and then their doctorate but have never experienced practical work in their life, whereas some of those we are talking about have designed factories. They have designed a pioneering factory, as you call it, that is, they have put their knowledge into practice. Such persons, when they lecture, have in their mind's eye a picture of what they have done with their own hands. But are they capable of doing

so in addition to their assigned tasks. I want Lt. Gen. Husayn Kamil to answer me. I want Dr. Humam 'Abd-al-Khaliq, Lt. Gen. 'Amir Muhammad Rashid, and Dr. Ja'far Diya' Ja'far to answer me because they know what they have. First, I would like the brothers I have mentioned and the oil minister to answer me.

The leader president then listened to their answers and said:

But if you unleash a wolf on the stricken one (alluding to the remark that the Tikrit University is stricken with fever), you will find it running very fast. So, we are now in front of a wolf. This wolf is among us and around us. This means that we are in a position that does not allow for one to recover and be able to run. We want him to run to get rid of the wolf. So, we must take this example into consideration.

Your opinions are clear, but I want to reassure myself about some information, which we did not discuss before. Through meetings with citizens, it happened that an Iraqi citizen came and told me: Sir, I completed a doctorate degree in half or two-thirds of the time. This is one thing. Another thing, I heard that in the West, they determine the result they want to achieve, and therefore, the time factor is flexible in order to achieve this result. In fact, they are flexible regarding duty hours to achieve this result. In other words, they do not set a condition, as we do, that duty hours should begin at a certain time and end at another specified time. Moreover, every scientific or philosophic level we seek to entrench in the minds and thinking of the students have general standards which are recognized by universities. These standards are in line with the ancientness and capabilities of universities. So, when we want to move students from a preparatory grade to a higher level, then what we seek is the level. This means that the objective is the level. Is not that right?

What is required is to define this standard in both the theoretical and practical fields. Some universities may say: No, what we are interested in is to see a graduate in a technological field put his speciality into practice. This means that a specialist in electricity is a specialist in his own field, and therefore, he must be able to put what he has learned into practice. Is that right? Or is there any other standard?

If we, for example, are in need of a staff officer, we send the graduate officer from the Military Academy to the Staff College. This Staff College is not easy; it has its own traditions because the Iraqi Staff College is an old one. However, during the [Iraq-Iran] war there was a need to reduce the graduation time of staff officers. Why did we agree to reduce the time? And, why I am giving you the Staff College as an example, rather than something else? Why did I not give the Military Academy as an example? The Military Academy takes preparatory classes students, so, any reduction in time will create an imbalance in quality. We might also fail to polish the military character. I gave the Staff College as an example because the standard of teaching in this college is very advanced. This is an assumption, but, what has been achieved on this level is another issue. Let us suppose that the person who gains two years combat experience is a better teacher than the person without any experience in the field. We should consider that they have the same scientific degrees.

Let us suppose that the student with the rank of captain, who is admitted to the Staff College, was a company commander and was engaged in combat for two or three years in the Army. When this officer begins his studies he will understand the material better than an officer in the Iraqi Army who did not fight for a single day and whose studies were only academic. Therefore, we agreed to reduce the time of study at the Staff College to the minimum.

Now, we are looking at high level scientific degrees: Master and doctorate degrees. It seems that the discussion is now focused on the doctorate level, is that not so? The person with a master's degree wants to prepare for the doctorate degree. We are not going to discuss here whether we should bring a person with a master's degree and discuss whether his research is applicable in his field. It seems that the discussion is devoted to the scientific side, not the humanitarian side, correct? An engineer from the Housing and Reconstruction Ministry might come to you and say: This bridge was shelled and damaged and I did a practical thing outside my field of study at the university.

I could introduce him to you if you wish. However, his teacher may tell him: No, we do not want that, rather we want you to come up with a study in a certain field. This is, if there is no creativity and when the case is an ordinary one. In this case, the pillars of the bridge were there when the bridge was bombarded and all that was done by the engineer was that he studied the specifications of neighboring pillars, and there was no creativity in his work on the bridge. Therefore, his supervising teacher will not be content. This means that selection is not confined to the student. Does the student select his subject? Even if the student selects it, he should gain the approval of his teacher. Is not that so?

Therefore, the purpose of any study is to raise the level of the student theoretically and practically.

After the war, we discovered that all the basic materials related to the science we had studied were destroyed, but that all practical skills in our country increased from 60 percent before the war to at least 75 percent. How did this occur?

It was due to the practical experience that was gained. I assume that the practical side cannot be ignored. Agriculture, for example, is a practical side. Not every one can plough the land with an old plough. He should have experience in using that old plough. This does not require science but experience. But when a graduate of the college of agriculture builds a farm based on books, the practical side will enable him to make new and

developed things for life. I assume this to be a scientific level, a new scientific standard. This is what we need, and it differs from the studies we do not want.

So, what we want is to make the doctorate degree holder a genuine doctorate graduate. There have been many graduates who had doctorate degrees from German, British, or U.S. universities. This graduate can remember what was his level in both the theoretical and practical fields, and what were the things that he could put into practice. So, let him teach what he learned in Britain to the new person who is doing his degree. If this person's skills are better than the British ones, in case he graduated from Britain, this is good and the teacher will be happy. If his skills are less than this, then the teacher should not accept this.

I have questions on this issue and I want you to answer them. Do we want us to remain on the same level, and the issue to be merely of concern about a familiar case? We should cooperate together through discussion so that our losses or sacrifices will be minimized.

The first university which introduced doctorate studies had certainly hesitated before embarking on this step. This is expected because any new experiment makes one try, when discussing it, to determine the margin of risk involved, and whether it is guaranteed in accordance with the exploration standards, and not in accordance with the standards of someone who is positive about practical conclusions. If someone says that I need a building, we will tell him: Even if you choose this building in which we are now meeting, considering that it is good for doctorate degree studies, I will instruct the officials in charge to give it to the university president and to furnish it the way he wants, and to give him a certain room, after making the necessary changes on it, to turn it into a laboratory to be ready when needed.

So, by exploring human conditions, we can develop. We cannot rely on the results of slow, ordinary development. I mean that man can build on the result before taking the next step. In many cases, one can make a step in light of advance studies. So, he thinks and calculates in a scientific manner, but he cannot guarantee 100 percent results. Therefore, we say: Forge standards and proceed in light of them.

I want to hear the brothers' criticism of these matters. First, is what I heard about studies in the West true? I mean like reducing time. Some came and told me: Sir, I have not received the privileges I am entitled to although I have finished my term of study before the assigned time. So, do you want the student to continue his studies at the expense of the state until he finishes the time set for him, or are you prepared to accept that an active student obtain his certificate in less than the assigned time? Such a question surprises me. I hope that everyone will be able to reduce time, because this is better for us economically and practically. I tell such a man: Is there something with this? I wonder why he is not given his privileges? I recall that after this case, we made a decision in which we said that such a person must benefit from and receive his privileges. This is what I heard. I want you to tell me first whether or not what I have heard from those who returned from studying abroad is true, and how accurate it is, so that I will be able to form an idea about this? Please, let one of the teachers answer this.

Commenting on what one of the audience said about the minimum period required for polishing the higher studies student—which is a period that cannot be shortened—leader president said: They insist on a minimum period so that the student reaches the stage and the standard which they have decided in advance for him to get the doctorate degree. I also heard that they give honorary doctorate degrees. Why do they give honorary doctorate degrees if they have to apply all regulations. Is it not because they decided that a certain individual has reached the standard in sciences and has become known to them as a scientist in aviation, for example, and that his standard matches that of he who has the doctorate degree, therefore, they give him this degree? Or that another individual lectures on political science even in their universities, and that he has written books and done several research works and studies, therefore, they give him the doctorate degree. Is this what happen or not?

On what al-Mustansiriyah University President Dr. Riyad Hamid al-Dabbagh said about granting the honorary doctorate degrees to political personalities and prominent scientists, leader president said: I am aware of and understand the importance of the broad scientific knowledge that a doctorate degree holder should have in the field of his study in which he obtained his certificate. Let us look into what they mean by this broad knowledge. Is there an examination for the student other than his examination in the field of his research and the questions relating to it? During the research period the supervisor accompanies the student and provides him with questions and asks him to go further here or there. He may ask him to recheck the subject from a specific angle. But I assume that they want the student to prove that he has made efforts enough to provide him with a broad base of information so as to make sure that the result of the intellectual skills and the efforts he made have led to this study. In order to make sure that things have taken place in this way, they ask the student various questions to check if his information is a mere dictation or that the broad base, research works and studies he carried out, and the intellectual efforts he made have resulted in this standard in the fields they want. Is it not exactly the case?

Commenting on what one of the audience said about the additions that the new researcher can provide and the mistakes he discovers in certain fields which leads to new qualitative additions to knowledge, leader president said: It came to my mind that the university professors stress the behavioral aspect of the doctorate degree student. They take into consideration that after his graduation he will probably become a teacher in the

same university with them. Therefore, they need this behavioral aspect as one of the university traditions to be part of the new teacher. There can be regulations for this situation. I mean that it is possible to show some flexibility on condition that you have the freedom to refuse or accept the admission of anyone in your university cadre unless he has the behavioral characteristics and the teaching ability to become a university professor. This is something for which you have to work out regulations. On the other hand, I assume that to establish the broad knowledge which the researcher is based on, there should be an academic ground, rich intellectual background that is based on continuous researching, contemplation, and efforts until the research comes to light.

I assume that the researcher from those who presented or will present papers—perhaps some will not present papers—I assume that if we open this door, we find that the researcher transforms his research on his experiment into a theory. Take from those who carried out serious, creative and not imitative research. Take from those who read, reviewed sources, contemplated, and underwent strong experiences.

I have been with them in conscience if not with them in the laboratory. I am aware of the suffering they underwent in order to realize something. Suddenly, we receive news from the laboratory that they have reached a certain level in their research. Sometime later they say that they completed this part, that they still have a small part to finish. They say: We have to do that and accomplish it, God willing, because we are continuing our efforts. What does effort mean? It means scientific effort; it means thinking and exertion. It means reading and consulting reference works.

Therefore, many and not all of those whom you will test have been indirectly exposed to the broad base which you are demanding. This is because it is impossible for a person to present a paper with practical solutions to problems of life within his purview without sufficient reading and studies. Some of them may have gone back to their textbooks to see if they have forgotten certain theoretical aspects and ascertain that everything went all right.

I would like you to assure me how correct I have been in my remarks.

Commenting on a remark by one of those present that some professors refuse to teach outside their well-defined specialization, the president said:

I have heard that in certain countries there is a trend to concentrate on branches in knowledge. They say that if someone comes up with a good result in his branch of specialization, there is no need for him to be well-versed in the broad base that encompasses the branches of this part of knowledge. If this is true, then the idea presented by the lecturers can be easily applied. I heard that some are heading toward specialization in branches and not in the entire scientific field. Let us take the electronics field for instance, which is a wide field. The researcher is not supposed to know everything in the field of electronics but he should concentrate on a definite side to this field of knowledge.

They make it a condition that he must excel in his own branch in order to have a degree. He must present an original, creative thesis with novel ideas. Am I correct in what I have heard?

When those present testified to the truth of what the leader president said, he added:

This seems to be realistic. We were right in the past because we had no other yardstick. We had no industry. We had no advanced agriculture to test someone in this garden or that field and ask him to explain why in a garden there is one tree which is higher than all the others by 3 meters. We had no yardstick. we could not reach the top of the tree to test the fruits and see if this tree is similar to the others. Is this tree's fruit superior to others? Since we had no yardstick, we could not tell if someone deserves the doctorate degree unless we find that his scientific base is broad and that he deserves the degree.

Now we have started to ascertain that a certain person has recorded something unusual in a field of knowledge, that what he did was a creative scientific and practical achievement. We try to see what he has done in the laboratory and we go there and see his new achievement. We ask an industrial organization if this man has invented something worthwhile in practice, to establish a certain factory. The answer will be yes. Someone will ask to meet him and he goes to a factory which already exists. This effort and confirmation did not exist in the Iraqi society and state and we had to rely on general specifications, that the specialist stands on a broad basis of knowledge. That is what I think.

Commenting on what one of the attendees said about regulations at British universities, the leader president said: Can you not set regulations and specifications for admission and graduation in a clear manner that does not mistakenly admit people?

Commenting on the answer that such regulations can be set but that concerns are raised regarding the people who are going to oversee these regulations, the leader president said: You are the ones who are going to implement these regulations at universities. I agree with some of your concerns regarding this issue. When we say, for example, that we want to honor people who fought in so-and-so battle during the Iraq-Iran war, we receive a list of names. But of course, we are not familiar with all the names. We find out later that the name of the messenger boy of the commander of an army division is on the list. Whereas the names of some brave fighters are not listed. Does this not mean that those who monitored the regulations were not thorough?

If we also asked the director of a certain factory to give us a performance appraisal report of his workers, we find

that the director would not make an effort and would not consider this a major responsibility similar to his responsibility toward his children by describing each person the way he knows him. He would, instead, take pity on Mr. so-and-so and say: Let us help that person and let things go at that. We are not here talking about a social care center; we are assessing the performance of employees, so that when we tell someone that we have promoted him because of his performance, others would try to achieve the same performance. But when people see that some are being honored when their performance does not qualify them to be honored, then any person might say that he could be honored even if his performance was not that good. So you have the right to fear even yourselves; that is, you have the right to doubt that your teacher might not be observing regulations properly. But if we continue to think this way, our fear will always remain with us, because we will continue to give doctorate degrees even if we tell the people who are doing experimental research that we are not going to discuss their research. This is because we will certainly discuss research papers which could be worse than the research papers presented by the former category.

The same fear will remain with us; that is, the practical aspect of fear, and other teachers will probably be affected by this and say: Poor Mr. so-and-so, let us help him out of pity. So this situation is a central defect that exists in our society, and not only in universities. It exists in the military, and let them hear me. It also exists in the Foreign Ministry and the Party. We always say: Poor Mr. so-and-so; Mr. X is the son of Mr. Y; Mr. X comes from tribe Y. Of course, the cases I have mentioned are not all the same, in terms of their influence. Since this case does exist and students will continue to graduate, we have to remedy this case. It is not wrong, for example, if you choose any student at random and see who was responsible for his graduation, and then examine the graduate once more. This might sound unfamiliar to you, but exceptional phenomena should be transferred to the level of creativity in an exceptional way. Otherwise, we will always remain backward, whether in social, scientific, or political activity. It seems to me that this is the case in general. I cannot tell you that your fears are not legitimate, but I want you to set regulations that make the margin of your fear as small as can be, so that it will not continue to harm us, since we are talking practically.

Officials Cable Saddam on Revolution Anniversary

JN1507201392

[Editorial Report] Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic on 15 July broadcasts several cables sent to Iraqi President Saddam Husayn by senior government and party officials on the 24th anniversary the 17-30 July revolution. The cables extend congratulations to Saddam on the anniversary, wishing him continued good health and happiness, renewed allegiance and loyalty to him, and review the achievements made by the revolution over the past 23 years.

In its 1400 GMT newscast, Baghdad radio broadcasts a cable from Vice President Taha Muhyi-al-Din Ma'ruf. In his cable, Ma'ruf congratulates Saddam, telling him that the revolution was the reflection of a unique leadership that led "the struggling march of our Iraqi people in their effort to achieve their aspirations for a free, dignified life." He adds that the revolution has made achievements in all walks of life.

Ma'ruf then speaks about the "unjust aggression by 34 states" in which all weapons of destruction were used, saying that the enemies and their evil objectives had failed. He notes that Iraq will pursue its reconstruction drive.

The second cable reported in the same newscast is sent by Prime Minister Muhammad Hamzah al-Zubaydi. In his cable, al-Zubaydi extends congratulations to Saddam on the revolution anniversary. He says that the anniversary reminds the Iraqis of "your determination to proceed ahead to safeguard the principles and objectives of this giant revolution, the revolution of the Ba'th, which embodied the highest values of patience, sacrifice, and struggle."

Al-Zubaydi also speaks about the 30-state aggression, led by "U.S. and Zionist imperialism and some of the nation's traitors," noting that the "dreams of the coveters were shattered and their gathering was broken up, and the arrows of treachery and treason were broken." He also notes that the unjust blockade will fail.

In its 1600 GMT newscast, the radio broadcasts a cable from Vice President Taha Yasin Ramadan, praising Saddam's leadership and reviewing achievements made by the 17-30 July revolution over the past 23 years.

Ramadan says that the enemies had realized that "this revolution and its heroic leader, Saddam Husayn, threaten their interests, ambitions, and colonialist policies." He affirms that "Saddam Husayn gains power and determination whenever the enemies try to obstruct the revolution by all means of plotting and aggression."

Ramadan also recalls the Iraq-Iran war and the "Mother of Battles" in which the "enemy of nations, America, had mobilized more than 30 states to commit aggression against great Iraq." Ramadan also affirms that the revolution will proceed ahead.

The same newscast reports on another cable from Defense Minister Staff General 'Ali Hasan al-Majid to Saddam Husayn on the 17-30 July revolution. Al-Majid extends congratulations to Saddam, noting that the revolution has become a "bright human model for all free men in the world". He notes that the revolution will continue despite the continued "plotting and collaboration of evil forces in the world, supported by the deviators of the nation's traitors."

Al-Majid pledges to remain loyal to Saddam Husayn, telling him that "we will be always on the alert to

eliminate whoever is tempted to undermine the inviolability of our territory and people and the achievements of our revolution."

Interior Minister Watban Ibrahim al-Hasan also sends a congratulations cable to Saddam Husayn on the revolution anniversary, which is reported in the same newscast.

The interior minister speaks about Saddam Husan's "brave leadership that achieved, with God's help, the most splendid victory and greatest epic in the Mother of Battles." He praises the longstanding, genuine principles of the 17-30 July revolution. He also notes the reconstruction campaign under way in Iraq, adding that the crop burning in northern Iraq by U.S. and British aircraft is "another barbaric act and a spiteful reaction through which criminal Bush and his assistants wanted to give evidence of the continuity of their malicious plots and exposed spite against the revolution of Iraq." The interior minister notes that the revolution will proceed ahead, pledging to protect the internal front.

The radio also reports in its 1800 GMT newscast that Saddam received cables from National Assembly Speaker Sa'di Mahdi Salih and 'Abd-al-Ghani 'Abd-al-Ghafur, secretary general of the National Patriotic and Progressive Front, congratulating Saddam on the revolution anniversary and renewing allegiance and loyalty to his leadership.

Standoff at al-Najah University Continues

Hunger Strike Planned

TA1607044892 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 0400 GMT 16 Jul 92

[Excerpt] The standoff at al-Najah University in Nablus continues, with students still holed up on the campus and soldiers surrounding the university because there are wanted gunmen inside. The United States has called on Israel and the Palestinians to find a peaceful solution to the showdown. Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin implied criticism for military authorities who permitted Tuesday's student elections. Miryam Herschlag has more:

The students have been on the campus for two nights now. The Army says there are around 1,500 of them; Palestinians put the number at 4,500. IDF [Israel Defense Forces] forces remain positioned around the university. They say there are 20 fugitives holed up with the students, including some who are armed. The closure of the area continues, and reporters are not allowed in. The Army says women and children have come to the university and are getting in the way of the security forces.

Palestinian leaders, including Faysal al-Husayni, Sa'ib 'Urayqat, and Sari Nusaybah are camped out at the Nabulus Red Cross Society, about 200 meters from the campus. Reached by phone, one of them, Dr. Sulayman, said that overnight, stones were thrown through classroom windows and students became frightened that the soldiers were about to enter, but there were otherwise no disturbances.

He stood by the estimate of 4,500 students on the campus and said that among them are pregnant women and 15 babies. Telephone lines into the university, he said, have been cut. Dr. Sulayman said Palestinian figures would begin a hunger strike at 0900 [0600 GMT] this morning. [passage omitted]

Al-Husayni Seeking International Solidarity

TA1507185492 Jerusalem Israel Television Network in Hebrew 1800 GMT 15 Jul 92

[Excerpts] The siege imposed by the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] on al-Najah University campus in the wake of the elections for the student union continues. Our Arab affairs correspondent Ehud Ya'ari says that in the next few hours, Yitzhaq Rabin, prime minister and defense minister, will have to reach a decision on what further actions to take. Our correspondent says that over 20 of the most dangerous fugitives wanted by the authorities in the territories are inside the campus among the hundreds of students. They include the two deputy commanders of the Black Panther gang, Mahmud Zar'ini and Ahmad Diq'a. Zar'ini is suspected of murdering approximately a dozen local residents for suspected collaboration with the authorities. [passage omitted]

Our correspondent explains that the wanted men came to Nabulus to help the Fatah candidates win the elections, despite the call issued by Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] to postpone the vote. [passage omitted]

The IDF has declared the area a closed military zone, and entry is barred to journalists, even if they are accompanied by the IDF spokesman. Faysal al-Husayni and his colleagues have set up an emergency headquarters at the Red Crescent offices, which are near the university. From here, they have been in phone contact with the State Department and European leaders in a bid to gain their intervention in Israel. [passage omitted]

The siege on al-Najah University will apparently be the first big test of the Rabin government.

Our Arab affairs correspondent Ehud Ya'ari has just reported that the negotiations between the IDF officers and al-Najah University's board of trustees have reached a dead end. The university representatives have demanded permission to bring food into the campus. They have also demanded that the curfew be lifted and that the students be allowed to leave the university grounds without being searched.

Major General Dani Rothschild, the coordinator of government activities in the territories, and Brigadier General Gadi Zohar, the head of the Civil Administration in Judaea and Samaria, rejected those demands. The IDF also rejected the university board's demand that Red Cross personnel be permitted to supervise the evacuation of the campus. University officials told our correspondent that they had no way of knowing whether wanted gunmen were on campus among the hundreds of students.

Territories Coordinator Comments

TA1507135292 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1300 GMT 15 Jul 92

[Text] Major General Dani Rothschild, the coordinator of government activities in the territories, said that it is inconceivable that armed men, who are wanted by the authorities, remain on the Nabulus university campus and use their weapons to influence the results of the student union elections.

Rothschild said he met this morning with the university's board of trustees, which includes several members of the Palestinian delegation to the peace talks. Rothschild told them that anyone who really wanted to hold democratic elections in the territories should refuse to countenance such a phenomenon. Rothschild told our correspondent Moti Amir that the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] were permitting students to leave the university grounds, but were reserving the right to verify the identity of any suspects.

Rabin on al-Najah Events, Baker Meeting

TA1507195492 Jerusalem Israel Television Network in Hebrew 1840 GMT 15 Jul 92

[Interview with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin by Yoram Ronen, political correspondent Gadi Sukenik, and Yisra'el Segal in the Jerusalem studio; from the "Moqed" program—live]

[Excerpt] [Ronen] Mr. Prime Minister, let us begin with the issue of the hour, al-Najah University in Nabulus. Hundreds of students are fenced in there at this time, refusing to be checked by the security forces. In your Knesset speech, when you introduced your government, you called on the Palestinians to talk to us and abandon violence. The international media, however, have already compared it with the fencing in at the Bastille. Are the events taking place in Nabulus today not pulling the rug from under the opportunity you are expecting for talks with the Palestinians?

[Rabin] I am very sorry about the circumstances. It was not my decision to hold elections for the student council in al-Najah today. I do not know who made the decision and when. I did not know, even yesterday morning, that such elections were taking place. The one who decided that the elections would take place should have prepared for them. He should have checked those going in, not those coming out. The situation needs correction, but as the saying goes: It is better to think twice before making a move. I have found, not created, the situation.

[Segal] So what will you do with that situation?

[Rabin] The situation is being examined at the moment. The chief of staff and others visited the site. We will make decisions tomorrow.

[Ronen] New ones?

[Rabin] We will make decisions tomorrow.

[Sukenik] Let us, therefore, move on to the surprise visit by Secretary of State Baker. He will land here on 19 July and will meet you. He will probably have several questions for you regarding the future, but one of the central issues will certainly be that of freezing settlements. I assume he will ask you whether you will be willing to freeze settlements already being built in areas densely populated by Palestinians in Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza. What will your answer be?

[Rabin] I have already stated the government's policies. I made a clear distinction between what I call political and security settlements. We made a clear distinction between the two. At the same time, even when we speak of what I call political settlements, there are two aspects: setting up new ones, and what is being done—or has been contracted to be done—in existing settlements. Surely you do not expect me to give you my reply to Baker, or later to President Bush.

[Sukenik] Should the residents of the territories not know what their fate will be?

[Rabin] At this stage, we are not speaking about affecting existing Jewish settlements. The way I see it, when speaking of self-rule, self-government, or autonomy for the residents in the territories, we are not speaking of the issues of security or foreign policy, and we are not speaking of responsibility over Jewish settlements in the territories.

[Segal] Am I right in assuming that you will not tell us before Baker gets here whether you are ready to reduce military deployment in the territories?

[Rabin] I will not deal now with any issue about which I will have to answer the secretary of state or the President. Our policy is clear. The order of national priorities is clear. It stems from our own considerations, not from any U.S. appeal to us. I would simply like to remind you of the issues. Several issues will be raised, such as the pace of negotiations—and not just with the Palestinians. We also want to continue speaking to Syria and Lebanon. Nevertheless, it seems to us that priorities should be set, and the chances are greater on the issue of self-government, self-rule, and autonomy for the Palestinians in the territories. In attaining this, we will reach an interim arrangement for a transitional period for a limited time. We are not speaking of the permanent solution. We are certainly not speaking about the future of Jerusalem. Give us time, please. After all, this is just a matter of four days. Secretary Baker will come here, and together we will seek formulas to correspond with our concepts while adhering to Israeli law. After all, not all construction contracts can be canceled. It depends on the stage they are in. There are issues that have not yet been examined thoroughly. We are a 48-hour-old government, and already you want detailed answers. The issues that will be raised are linked with peacemaking, with expediting it, with elections. The experience gained from the al-Najah elections teaches us something about the stage when general elections should be held.

There are additional issues. For example, the Palestinians are demanding elections for a legislative assembly. That is inconceivable! The Camp David accords speak of elections for an administrative council—a self-governing authority—to run the autonomy. As you can see, there are many issues, attitudes, and formulations. I will not tell you today what I will tell Baker.

[Segal] Sir, you are asking us today for patience, but it is our impression that the Americans and the U.S. Administration are not giving us much time. Allow me, in this context, another question. The Democratic Party conference ends tomorrow. Is there not a fear here that the Americans are using us for their own internal matters?

[Rabin] In the past I did not expect the U.S. Administration to regard the Labor Party as the authority. We must assume the same attitude toward the United States. We must speak with the elected leader. We should keep in touch with the political opposition, and remain aware

of the election date, but we are speaking—as is the custom among democratic regimes—with the government or the authority in the other country. If, due to some such consideration, Israel could gain some advantages....[changes thought] After reading the clause regarding Israel in Democratic Party platform, published yesterday, I realized this does not contradict the U.S. Democratic Party stand. [sentence as heard]

[Segal] Do I hear you say that the whole issue of agreements will not be concluded during Baker's visit and that it will be postponed until after the U.S. elections?

[Sukenik] Meaning, could you afford to say no?

[Rabin] I can afford to say what I think. Naturally, I will take into consideration our policies, our desire to strengthen peacemaking and to open a dialogue with the Palestinians. In that respect, al-Najah is an obstacle, one that was unwisely created by us as well. Who needed elections in al-Najah today?

[Segal] Who exactly are you criticizing?

[Ronen] The former defense minister?

[Rabin] The one who made the decision; certainly whoever did not prepare for it.

[Ronen] Let me rephrase the question. Knowing that you will not go into detail regarding your offers to Baker, can you tell us in general that you will present Baker with new offers that the Americans have not heard so far?

[Rabin] I assume that I will present him with formulations that are different from the stands of the previous government.

[Ronen] One more question: You met with Baker and Scowcroft while in opposition. You are familiar with the American stand. Do you believe that the U.S. Administration will go along with your distinction between political and security settlements and agree that certain settlements are fine, while others are not?

[Rabin] We shall see.

[Sukenik] Judging from your statements so far, I gather that you think peace negotiations should be absolutely different from those held by your predecessors—much faster and more intensive.

[Rabin] In the framework of the bilateral talks with the Jordanian-Palestinian or the Palestinian-Jordanian delegation, with the Syrians, and with the Lebanese, we want to hold continuous and ongoing negotiations wherever possible and make progress that is not based on a coordinated timetable. Rather, wherever progress can be made, the talks should be accelerated. I believe that the chances for this are better in the negotiations between us and the Palestinian-Jordanian delegation. If new developments arise with Syria, I will be very happy to reach peace with it as well.

[Sukenik] But in order to achieve Palestinian autonomy within nine months—which, although not a commitment, is what you aspire to—then you must accelerate your contacts with them more than with the other delegations, which apparently involve much more complicated issues. Will the Arab countries allow the Palestinians to make progress?

[Rabin] Let us wait and see.

[Sukenik] Do you think it is possible?

[Rabin] If they do not want peace and do not wish to reach an agreement....[changes thought] Peace is not something that can be imposed. Peace requires two interested parties. I believe that our proposals offer more of a response to some of the Palestinians' problems—and I am speaking about the Palestinians in the territories—than those of the previous government. Of course, there are many question marks about the previous government's true intentions.

[Ronen] Until now, Mr. Prime Minister, the Palestinians and all the Arab leaders have reacted coldly and even with hostility to your speech in the Knesset and to the invitation you extended to President al-Asad, King Husayn, and the Palestinian delegation. Does this not imply that there has been no change on their side, despite the turnabout in Israel?

[Rabin] Listen, even if they had accepted some of my statements, they could not admit it for fear of weakening their position in the negotiations. I believe that progress can be made through dialogue, through negotiations, and by taking various steps that will not undermine the chances of promoting peace—primarily between us and the Palestinians in the territories.

[Segal] Mr. Rabin, we have a lot of historic experience. If we recall the peace process with Egypt, all the public statements came against the background of many contacts between al-Tuhami [close adviser to al-Sadat] and the late Moshe Dayan. I realize you will not give us any details, but was the call you issued this week in the Knesset to the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation accompanied by behind the scenes political contacts?

[Rabin] I held no contacts with any element....

[Segal, interrupting] Perhaps then someone on your behalf?

[Rabin, continuing] ...before assuming the role of prime minister.

[Segal] And since then?

[Rabin] I think that there can be countries, including the United States, which without impinging on the bilateral nature of the negotiations between Israel and the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation or the Syrians or the Lebanese, can help. These countries include the United States, Egypt, and perhaps we will find other countries that can exert influence and moderate positions beyond

the bilateral negotiations. Not in the negotiations themselves; those are bilateral. I am convinced, however, that in the new political reality in the world there are elements that can influence our interlocutors. There are great opportunities that can be offered, even to the Palestinians. For example, they could be offered hundreds of millions of dollars in investment to improve their standard of living and create jobs. I fervently hope that as soon as autonomy is established we will find the financial resources to resolve some of the economic problems in Gaza so that the local residents will stay at home. There are new possibilities that should be examined. Whoever does not make a serious effort to reach peace will never attain it. I have repeatedly said that the moment we decided that the Jewish state would be established here in Eretz Yisra'el, we decided who our neighbors would be. There are more than 100 million Arabs, as well as the Palestinians. There are only two alternatives: live in peace, or at least try to do so, or forever live by the sword. Any government that does not make a serious attempt to reach peace, even if it involves taking reasonable risks—after all, we also took risks in war—will not be fulfilling its duty to its citizens, and will not be able to look the mothers and fathers of our children in the eye.

[Segal] Do these risks you talk about taking also apply to Syria, for example? Could you consider negotiations on disengagement agreements on the Golan Heights? This is something that has been mentioned in various international political circles.

[Rabin] I will not get into any details regarding Syria. I have already said, and I reiterate: We want first to hear Syria say it is ready to establish full peace with Israel, just as Egypt did.

[Ronen] I believe that the Syrians have said that.

[Rabin] I have not yet heard such a statement.

[Ronen] I believe the Syrians said they would be willing to establish peace on the condition that Israel promise to withdraw from the Golan Heights.

[Rabin] I have not heard such a thing.

[Ronen] Let me ask you differently. Negotiations are a matter of give and take. Several times, we asked former Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir what Israel could give to Syria. Mr. Shamir always replied: Nothing; peace in return for peace. Is that also your approach, or can we speak in principle about land for peace—not necessarily with Syria?

[Rabin] I do not want to say. I met with the Golan Heights Settlement Council before the elections. I told them: Look, in 1974 we signed a disengagement agreement with Syria. We gave back 2 km of al-Qunaytirah. We got a disengagement agreement that the Likud attacked in the Knesset and voted against. For approximately 17 years every resident of the Golan Heights has enjoyed a level of personal security against terrorist attacks and knifings that is not matched in any other part of Israel—not in Bat Yam, not in Tel Aviv, and not on the 405 bus line [which was driven into a ravine by an Arab in 1989]. I asked them: Was giving up those 2 km worth the security we received? None of them said no. I again reiterate that we will not come down from the Golan Heights, even in return for peace.

[Segal] However, if I interpret your remarks correctly....

[Rabin, interrupting] Do not interpret them.

[Segal, laughing] Please permit me to do so, sir. After all, that is what I am here for. You are an adherent of the Kissinger approach to disengagement agreements. Your remarks imply a possible disengagement agreement on the Golan Heights.

[Rabin] I did not say any such thing. We are not talking about a disengagement agreement. The negotiations with Syria are about peace.

[Ronen] Mr. Prime Minister, are you willing to repeat the statements you made at the Labor Party's convention about a withdrawal of not centimeters but kilometers on the Golan Heights?

[Rabin] I was not speaking about the Golan Heights....

[Ronen, interrupting] Then was it Judaea and Samaria?

[Rabin, continuing] ...nor are we referring to the present government's term in office. When talking about Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip, we are talking about an interim arrangement for five years that calls for self-administration and autonomy for the Palestinians in the territories.

[Ronen] When you said that we had to give up not centimeters but kilometers of territories, what were you talking about?

[Rabin] I was referring to the permanent solution that will not be implemented during the government's present term in office.

[Sukenik] Let us move over to the Iranian nuclear threat. Before that, however, let us ask about your trip to Egypt. Do you really intend to leave for Egypt within several days?

[Rabin] There is a possibility that I will go to Egypt in the near future. When I know for sure, I will say so.

[Ronen] Even before you visit the United States?

[Rabin] In the near future.

[Segal] With what aim, Sir?

[Rabin] I said earlier that I believe that in addition to the bilateral meetings, other elements should be employed in the negotiations to facilitate the bilateral talks. I do not mean participating in the actual negotiations inside the room. I think that the United States has a role to play, and I very much hope that Egypt can be of assistance.

[Sukenik] Incidentally, this constitutes a change because the previous Israeli government asked the Americans to refrain as much as possible from getting involved, while you say that you seek their intervention and assistance.

[Rabin] Do you really think that they were not involved? Did Baker and his aides not receive reports after every meeting? Were they not asked to soften up the other parties' positions here and there? Give me a break.

[Sukenik] You mean that this was a matter of semantics.

[Rabin] No, it was a matter of admitting the truth.

[Segal] What about the Europeans?

[Rabin] I do not know about the Europeans. I would recruit any element that could make things easier for us in the bilateral negotiations with Jordan and the Palestinians, Syria, and Lebanon—any element that could facilitate the achievement of our goals—not by bringing them into the negotiations hall, but by outside activity.

[Sukenik] Let us get back to Iran. As you probably know, the Iranian nuclear threat has recently become literally the hottest issue affecting Israel's security. There have been many discussions about this matter at the most senior echelons. What can we do to neutralize it? There is no direct connection between Israel and Iran, but notwithstanding the huge distances, it appears that we shall have to resort again to some heroic operation in the heart of Iran.

[Rabin] Look, the danger of nuclear weapons in the Middle East is undoubtedly one of the most serious threats to Israel's very existence. This is no mere intifadah or terrorist threat—which despite all the pain, sorrow, and sheer aggravation it causes, does not endanger the State of Israel's very existence. As for the nuclear threat, Iraq was the most developed of all the Arab countries in this field, including Iran. I have no doubt that, as a result of the Gulf War, Iraq's nuclear plans suffered a severe blow. That was something that, in my opinion, Israel could not have accomplished without conquering part of Iraq, which is quite inconceivable. The Iraqis learned their lesson from 1981. All their nuclear program was deployed and spread out in such a way that an aerial strike similar to the one we carried out in 1981 would not have effectively stopped the Iraqis from pursuing their plans.

I will not get into details about the Iranian program. I have no doubt that one of the long-range, not short-range, problems—and I am not talking about Iran in three, five, or perhaps even seven years—[changes thought]. I think that one of the solutions to these dangers is international cooperation led by the United States. Another is to reduce Arab-Israeli tensions by making peace wherever possible, without undermining Israel's security. We must look at what is right under our noses and not kilometers to either side. We must realize what will happen if this tension, hostility, constant friction, and growing animosity toward Israel continues in the future.

[Ronen] But no agreement is expected to be signed with Iran in the near future, sir. If I remember correctly in an article you published in the monthly POLITICS several months ago you spoke of a respite of several years during which we have to prepare for the threat of a nuclear Middle East. Are we not running out of time?

[Rabin] We are not running out of time just yet. A lot depends on what is done in the sphere of working toward peace, which can also help spur international cooperation, led by the United States, together with other elements, to stop the proliferation of nuclear weapons—in Iran as well. [passage omitted]

Rabin's Planned Proposals to Baker Detailed

TA1607103392 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 16 Jul 92 pp A1, A8

[Report by political correspondent 'Aqiva Eldar]

[Excerpts] Israel will propose to the United States the same formula that gave it the $400 million loan guarantees in 1990, authoritative political elements said yesterday in Jerusalem. The formula makes no reference at all to a settlement freeze and makes do with an Israeli pledge that the funds will not be used for investments beyond the Green Line, and with an apparatus ensuring that construction in the territories is duly reported.

Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin will further declare that construction in the territories will be limited to the expansion of existing settlements, which are defined as "security settlements." In unofficial talks, U.S. elements pointed out that it was reasonable to believe that the administration would waive the demand for a total settlement freeze and settle for the government guidelines speaking of rearranged national priorities and of refraining from steps harming the peace negotiations. [passage omitted]

Political elements have said that one of the issues to be raised during Baker's visit is the inclusion of the Palestinian diaspora in the committee on refugee affairs and in the committee for economic development, both in the framework of multilateral talks. The elements believe that Rabin will agree to pursue the talks in the same committees and along patterns in which they were held two months ago, on the assumption that in return for Israel's consent to the inclusion of the same diaspora representatives who participated in the committees' previous session, Syria too will join the multilateral talks. [passage omitted]

[Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew on 16 July, in a related frontpage report compiled by political and Washington-based correspondents, adds that Rabin will hand Baker "a proposal for the acceleration of the peace talks with the Palestinians, the target being Palestinian self-rule in

the territories within nine months. The two parts of Jerusalem, the Jewish settlements in the territories, and border areas will not be included in the autonomy." The report adds that "Rabin will promise Baker a complete freeze of construction in the territories during the peace negotiations." The report further states that "Israel will ask Baker to present its plan to its Arab interlocutors. Baker will also have to convince the Palestinians to launch an accelerated dialogue with Israel without any connection to the progress of talks between Israel and the other Arab delegations. In addition, Baker will try to convince Syria, Jordan, and Lebanon to accept separate Palestinian progress toward an autonomy accord."

[Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew on 16 July, in a related report by Pe'erli Shahar, 'Eran Klein, and Pinhas 'Inbari on pages 1 and 8, adds: "Diplomatic sources involved in the political process have told 'AL HAMISHMAR that Israel will be ready to announce that it is discontinuing deportations, revoking the proceedings against the 11 prospective deportees, and abolishing censorship; it will further consider allowing the return of deported Palestinians and releasing intifadah detainees who had not been involved in bloodshed."]

U.S. To Offer $6-8 Billion in Loan Guarantees

TA1607090992 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 16 Jul 92 pp 1, 15

[Report by political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer]

[Excerpt] The United States will offer Israel loan guarantees for immigrant absorption to the tune of about $1.5 billion for the coming year. This is according to reports reaching the prime minister, foreign minister, and finance minister from the Israeli Embassy in Washington over the past 24 hours.

According to the reports, U.S. Secretary of State James Baker plans to work out the framework for granting of the loan guarantees during his visit here next week. The issue will be finalized during the Rabin-Bush meeting at the President's holiday home in Maine in early August.

The reports also said that the United States plans to offer Israel loan guarantees of $6 billion to $8 billion over five years instead of the $10 billion Israel requested a year ago. The smaller sum is due to a drop in immigration from the CIS.

According to the reports, the administration will demand from Israel the following:

—implementation of far-reaching economic reforms.

—reaching an understanding on the continuation of the peace process.

—freezing building in the settlements beyond the Green Line.

—an agreement on the scope of building in the territories on projects the construction of which has begun already.

The administration will insist that the legislation in Congress state that the granting of loan guarantees in the future will be solely the prerogative of the President.

Political sources noted last night that in their view Israel will receive the first $1.5 billion in loan guarantees before the U.S. presidential elections. [passage omitted]

Government To Cut Aid to 'Political' Settlements

TA1607103692 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 16 Jul 92 pp 1, 8

[Report by Pe'erli Shahar]

[Text] About 100 of the 142 settlements in the territories fall under Yitzhaq Rabin's new definition of "political settlements," and a significant cut is therefore expected in the aid they receive from government sources. This fact, which was revealed by Labor party sources, is published in the latest issue of THE JERUSALEM REPORT. According to the sources, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin regards only 40 settlements, which are situated in the Jordan Rift Valley and around Jerusalem, as security settlements vital to Israel's security. At least seven of the "political" settlements were established during Labor-led governments, the paper reports.

Settlements that are expected to be affected include all 16 Gaza Strip settlements and the following ones in the West Bank: Elqana, Qedumim, and possibly the town of Ari'el.

Contracts for 3,000 Units in Territories Canceled

TA1507212492 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 2100 GMT 15 Jul 92

[Text] Following an order from the construction and housing minister, the Construction and Housing Ministry director general has instructed ministry officials to cancel their endorsement of contracts for the construction of 3,000 housing units in the territories. The contracts have been approved but not signed.

Our correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports that the apartments were supposed to be built in dozens of locations, including new settlements and expansions of existing ones. Ministry sources said that the instructions were issued in view of the new government's policy.

All Building Contracts in Country Frozen

TA1607101492 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0900 GMT 16 Jul 92

[Text] All building contracts for the entire country—including Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip—which still have not be signed will be frozen until a new decision is made on the future of the contracts. Our

correspondent, Ya'aqov Balsenboim, reports that this was agreed between Finance Minister Avraham Shohat and Construction and Housing Minister Binyamin Ben-Eli'ezer. A decision is expected within one week. The two ministers also agreed this morning to conduct a detailed study of all construction throughout the country begun in 1992.

Roads Included in Freeze

TA1607110092 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 16 Jul 92 pp A1, A8

[Report by Yerah Tal and Judy Maltz]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] The construction and housing minister has ordered a freeze on the construction of apartments where contracts have already been signed and on the suspension of the planning and preliminary proceedings of new roads beyond the Green Line, including the Nabulus bypass road. It has been learned from the Construction and Housing Ministry that the construction of apartments will be frozen to allow the minister to study the issue, and that in the future, construction will be resumed in accordance with the government guidelines, which make a distinction between security and political settlements. [passage omitted]

It should be noted that of the 16,500 permanent housing units in the territories included in the Construction and Housing Ministry's plan for 1990-92, only 500 have been completed and populated. The construction of about 4,000 units has been completed, and they are now being connected to infrastructure. About 9,000 additional housing units are in various stages of construction, while some 3,000 are in initial stages. About 60 percent of the total number of apartments under construction are in "political" settlements. [passage omitted]

Housing Minister Comments

TA1607054492 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0405 GMT 16 Jul 92

[Telephone interview with Construction and Housing Minister Binyamin Eli'ezer by Me'ir Einstein—live]

[Text] [Einstein] Have you declared war on the settlers?

[Ben-Eli'ezer] Did anybody ever hear me declare war? In the meantime, it is they who are drawing conclusions and declaring war. Wars are declared against enemies. I am definitely not their enemy, and they are not mine. They decided to move in a certain direction. I told them that direction will not help anyone. I recognize dialogue and discussions; I do not acknowledge warfare. If war is declared, however, then I am good at it, too.

[Einstein] I know. Can you tell us something about the meaning of your decision to freeze 3,000 contracts which were due to be signed? What is being frozen from today?

[Ben-Eli'ezer] I took over the ministry only two days ago. All I called for was to hold up the process of making commitments to projects, to sites for which we have not signed contracts, until I have all the data so that I can make a decision. We are currently at the tail end of an election. We are therefore talking about a change in the order of priorities. Our decision has nothing to do with a visit by a U.S. secretary. We have not hidden our views from the nation over the past two to three months.

[Einstein] You know that when Baker arrived in Israel several months ago, he complained that each time he arrived he found a new settlement. Now he will find a freeze. Is that the idea?

[Ben-Eli'ezer] My decision has nothing to do with Baker. It is linked to only one thing: the policy we tried to explain in recent months and which became the government's basic guidelines. It means moving along two parallel tracks: on the one hand, what we call making peace with security, and on the other, a new national order of priorities. We want to end the process of one Israel of 3,900,000 Jews and another Israel of 100,000 Jews. We want to start to provide answers to the basic problems of Israeli society in unemployment, housing for young couples, aliyah. We are fighting for that, and these are things for which we received the mandate from the people. If the settlers ask: Binyamin, is there a change? then I say: Certainly, there is a change. They talk about new contracts. At this moment, I do not know what I am going to do with tens of thousands of building starts. Completing them would mean another 100,000 Jews in the territories. Anybody who thinks otherwise simply does not understand the issue.

[Einstein] Will they also be frozen?

[Ben-Eli'ezer] I do not know, but I am currently in the process of studying the subject. All that I have done so far—and I am not apologizing—is to put a halt to all the contracts that have not yet been signed—because even without them, we are facing a complicated situation—until I learn the meaning of all the contracts that have already been signed, which also mean tens of thousands of housing units.

[Einstein] Will you invite them to your office for a talk to explain your positions?

[Ben-Eli'ezer] At this moment, I am working on a decision. They declared war even before I made a decision. In the meantime, I have made an administrative decision not to sign anything before I learn the facts. The moment I make a decision, I plan to invite them. I have known the leadership of the Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza Strip residents for a long time; I have great respect for them. We conducted a serious dialogue in the past, and we continue to do so.

[Einstein] I must ask you about al-Najah, because you lived in the area for so many years. How do you view the situation there?

[Ben-Eli'ezer] The locals must understand our policy. When we talked about peace, we said peace with security. If somebody thinks we are going to give up one iota on basic issues linked to our security, he is simply mistaken. Therefore, we will continue to deal with what is called terrorist elements—although they are few—with the severest gravity.

Settlers See 'Declaration of War'

TA1507182192 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1730 GMT 15 Jul 92

[Text] The Council of Jewish Settlements in Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza has claimed that the Construction and Housing Ministry does not intend to endorse construction contracts that were ready for its signature last month and that are part of the construction plans for 1991-1992. The settlers' council claims that there are thousands of such contracts for the construction of housing units, and that work on the infrastructure for those units has already started.

Aharon Domb, the settlers' council spokesman, told our correspondent in the territories, Udi Segal, that this is a declaration of war against the settlers by the newly appointed construction and housing minister. He added that the settlers are considering the use of all means available to fight that war.

GPO Publishes Government Policy Guidelines

TA1507173592 Jerusalem GOVERNMENT PRESS OFFICE in English 15 Jul 92

["Basic Policy Guidelines of the Rabin Government"]

[Text]

1. GENERAL

The dramatic changes on the international scene—the collapse of the Soviet Union and the end of the Cold War; the opening of the gates of the former Soviet Union to the mass immigration of its residents to Israel; the military strike against Iraq, effected by the United States and its allies—all these have [?gave rise to] new and great possibilities for advancement in all areas of life in the State of Israel.

The policies of the government and the national orders of priorities will be directed toward the exploitation of the opportunities to realize the central goals of the State of Israel.

The central goals of the government are: national security and personal security; peace; the prevention of war; the war on unemployment, via the creation of jobs, which will enable the absorption and strengthening of the immigration; the prevention of emigration; economic growth; the fortification of the foundations of democracy; the rule of law; the promise of complete equality for all citizens, and; the observance of human rights.

2. FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE [subtitle]

2.1. The foreign affairs and defense policy of the government will ensure the independence of the State; the bolstering of its security; and the establishment of peace with its neighbors.

2.2. The government will be diligent in strengthening and preserving the power of the IDF, its deterrent capability and its ability to withstand any military threat.

2.3. The government will forcefully act against all terror and violence. The IDF and the security forces will act toward the maximal reduction of the level of hostile activity and toward the maintenance of personal security for residents of Israel and residents of the territories, while adhering to the observance of law and of human rights.

2.4. The government will provide residents of and the settlements in Judaea, Samaria and Gaza with their existential and security needs, and with municipal services.

2.5. Peace will be established on the basis of recognition, by Arab states and the Palestinians, of Israel as a sovereign state in the region and of its right to live with peace and security.

2.6. The government will advance the peace process in the region with representatives of Arab states and the Palestinians, without any pre-conditions.

2.7. The government will offer Arab states and the Palestinians to continue the peace process in accordance with the framework and the schedule formulated at the Madrid conference. The government will work for the acceleration of the negotiations and for the conducting of continuous discussions between the parties. (Attached is the invitation to the Madrid conference.)

2.8. In the negotiations with the Palestinians, the government will propose—as an interim arrangement—a program for the implementation of self-administration for the Palestinians in Judaea, Samaria and Gaza. The government will refrain from courses of action and activities that will obstruct the proper conduct of the negotiations.

2.9. The government will entrench and strengthen settlement along the lines of confrontation.

2.10. The government will work toward the creation of a new Middle East, in which resources are no longer devoted toward the arms race, but to development—grounded in economic, cultural and scientific cooperation. Progress in the peace process must be accompanied by the creation of systems for regional cooperation.

2.11. The government will concentrate efforts to deepen and improve the special relations of friendship which exist between the United States and Israel.

2.12. The government will make efforts to strengthen relations with the European Community and its member-states, and to make them closer. In addition, it will work toward the strengthening of relations with Russia, the Commonwealth of Independent States, China and other states.

2.13. The government will make efforts to cultivate friendly relations and reciprocal ties between Israel and all peace-loving countries.

2.14. The government will continue to view Egypt as an important partner in efforts to establish peace in our region and work toward the advancement of the understanding and friendship between the Israeli people and the Egyptian people.

2.15. The government will keep all the international commitments of the State of Israel.

3.CHANGE IN NATIONAL ORDER OF PRIORITIES

3.1. The government will alter the order of priorities in the allotment of financial resources from the State budget and from funds which arrive from abroad.

3.2. A renewed classification will be conducted of the map of development towns and areas, with communities on the lines of confrontation and development areas that are distant from the center of the country being preferred over areas in Judaea, Samaria and Gaza, which are close to the center of the country.

3.3. In determining the rate of assistance given to communities in different areas, a major consideration will be the distance of communities from the center of the country and their being confrontation areas.

3.4. All other budgetary commitments of the State of Israel, vis-a-vis the implementation of housing, infrastructure and development starts in areas of Judaea, Samaria and Gaza will be re- examined, in accordance with criteria detailed in the guidelines—in articles 3.2 and 3.3 above; according to budgetary ability, and; with consideration of the legal situation.

4. JERUSALEM

United Jerusalem—the eternal capital of Israel—will remain united and totally under Israel sovereignty.

Free access to the holy places will be ensured for members of all religions at all times, and freedom of religion will be guaranteed.

5. IMMIGRATION ABSORPTION

5.1. The government will work toward the absorption of the immigration which has arrived in Israel, via the creation of social, economic and spiritual conditions for the realization of the central purpose of the State of Israel—the ingathering of the exiles of the Jewish people in its homeland.

5.2. The government will ensure that the "absorption basket" and other forms of aid to immigrants will be of an appropriate level that will guarantee immigrants their basic necessities during the most difficult first period. The government will take particular care of weak groups among the immigrants, such as pensioners. The government will diligently enforce the social laws which protect the rights of immigrants.

5.3. The government will work toward the resumption of the immigration from Russia and from other countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States, and toward its increase.

5.4. The government will increase the efforts toward the completion of the immigration of Ethiopian Jewry, and toward their complete economic and social absorption.

5.5. The government will continue the efforts to rescue persecuted Jews, bring them to a safe haven and realize their right to immigrate to Israel.

5.6. The government views the phenomenon of emigration from Israel—and particularly among the young generation—as a negative and damaging phenomenon, and will work toward its prevention.

6. RELIGION AND STATE

6.1. The unity of the nation and proper social life require the cultivation of tolerance; harmony among all facets of the nation; and freedom of conscience and religion. The government will refrain from any religious or anti-religious coercion by any party and ensure public religious services for the residents, without any influence by political linkages.

6.2. The defense minister will appoint a team, under his leadership, which will examine and determine the criteria for the procedures of granting postponements of military service to those studying in religious academies, in a pattern to prevent the negative exploitation of existing arrangements in this area.

7. SOCIETY AND ECONOMY

7.1. The government views the guarantee of employment as a fundamental right of all citizens and will post the struggle against unemployment at the top of its economic and social order of priorities.

7.2. The government will take every effort toward the development of a modern, developed and flourished market of a high technological and industrial level, enabling the functioning of an advanced welfare state. The drive toward the realization of these goals will advance toward the raising of the standard of living for residents of Israel; the elimination of distress points; and the reduction of social gaps.

7.3. The government will work to develop the economy, to increase the rate of economic growth and to create

employment for the hundreds of thousands of immigrants and natives who will enter the work force in the coming five years.

7.4. The government will work toward adapting the economy to open management, free of administrative restrictions and from excessive government intervention in market and economic life.

7.5. The government will advance the sale of factories under its ownership, while maintaining a dialogue with the employees, guaranteeing their rights and giving them the option—when possible—to acquire stock in the companies being sold. The government will maintain a core of control over companies whose business is the management of the natural resources of Israel; over natural monopolies such as the Mekorot water company and the Electric Corporation, and; over sensitive defense industries.

7.6. In order to advance the Israeli economy toward full employment, while maintaining the stability of the market, there is a need for dialogue between the government, the Histadrut trade union and the economic organizations. This dialogue must be institutionalized (Economic Social Council) and constant.

7.7. The government will direct the major part of its investments toward the activation of essential projects which are aimed toward the preparation of an advanced infrastructure in transportation; electricity; communications; water and sewage; science-rich industries, and; research and development.

7.8. The government will work toward shortening procedures which weigh heavy upon the business sector, and on the treatment of matters pertaining to individuals.

7.9. The government will implement a policy of supervised exposure of the economy in order to increase its efficiency and improve its products.

7.10. The government will work toward defending the consumer via limitations and the supervision of monopolies and the prevention of restrictive arrangements, including monopolies over the import of products and merchandise.

7.11. The government will work toward the separation of the government and public markets from party mechanisms. The government will initiate the legislation of a law on the arrangement of appointments.

7.12. The government will take all measures necessary to entrench the levy and payment of a real tax.

7.13. Existing arrangements for the reduction of the cost of labor will be re-examined.

7.14. The government will commit to grant temporary incentives to business plants which will lead to increased employment, and views the mobility of workers and the preservation of their rights as a positive solution to the problems of unemployment.

7.15. The government will operate toward the creation of State and other tools which will encourage the growth process of small business.

7.16. The government will work toward the determination of a basket of social services (education, health, welfare and housing) which will be granted to all citizens in accordance with the law.

7.17. The government will initiate the legislation of a State pension law that will include all those working in the economy. Wage-earners and independents will be able to be members of a pension fund according to their choice. Pension funds will be administered under government supervision.

7.18. The government will renew the nutrition program for school children in order to ensure that every child in Israel enjoys at least one hot meal per day. In the first phase, the program will be renewed in development towns and disadvantaged neighborhoods.

7.19. The government will work toward the cultivation of city neighborhoods by raising the physical and cultural quality of life and by guaranteeing a basket of neighborhood services, which responds to education, health, welfare and leisure needs.

7.20. The government views development towns as a pioneering and Zionist creation and posts as a central national goal their strengthening and constant development. The government will grant priority to the consolidation of development towns by operating a gradual incentive policy for all development areas, while placing an emphasis upon the comprehensive development of the Galilee and Negev areas for the welfare of all their residents.

7.21. The government will legislate a comprehensive national health insurance law which will guarantee the rights of the patient and the public funding necessary for the existence of an advanced, public and equal health system of a high level. All citizens of Israel will benefit from health insurance, within whose framework they will receive all health services which they require for healing, basic prevention and rehabilitation. The insurance will be instituted via the public health funds which will observe fixed and unitary rules as will be required by law.

7.22. The government will work toward the implementation of reform in the capital market, including the reduction of government intervention in this market; the development of a risk-capital market, and; the supervised opening of the Israeli capital market to international fluctuations.

7.23. Means to shorten the waiting list for welfare hospitalization in dormitories and institutions for mental patients will be examined.

7.24. The government is committed to the realization of equality between men and women in all areas of life—

including wage matters, employment and taxation—and will prevent all forms of discrimination.

7.25. Special steps—and, where necessary, legislation—will be taken in order to guarantee to the complete equality of the actual wages of women and those of men.

7.26. An inter-ministerial team will be established to deal with the matter of family violence against women and children, while fully implementing the law on the prevention of family violence, and with the assistance of social and community services and their adaptation thereto.

7.27. The government will operate in order to assist women in employing their capabilities to advance in management positions in the various systems.

7.28. The government will work toward the bolstering of the system of services available to the working family, including the establishment of day-care facilities and the institution of a long school-day track in all educational institutions.

8. HOUSING AND CONSTRUCTION

8.1. The government will act to give priority to public construction. The government will work to ensure housing for new immigrants, housing solutions for young couples, while granting priority and aid to released soldiers while taking into account their economic and family situation. Housing solutions will also be provided to those families living in overcrowded conditions. Criteria for aid will be determined to ensure that the aid given by the state to those eligible will allow for adequate housing for young couples, immigrants and veteran citizens.

8.2. Ways of releasing lands for construction from the Israel Lands Authority will be evaluated, with the goal of reducing the price of and for construction.

8.3. The government will encourage industrialization in construction and will aid companies committed to cheap industrialized construction and construction for rental purposes, and will act towards the lessening of bureaucratic procedures in the granting of construction permits.

8.4. The government will act to ease the burden on mortgage sufferers.

8.5. The government will act immediately toward the construction of rental apartments at a price which young couples and homeless can afford and will view this as the preferred solution for the housing problems in Israel.

8.6. The total amount of mortgage for all those eligible will constitute a significant part of the price of the house.

9. EDUCATION, CULTURE AND SPORTS

9.1. The government views education as the central factor in the shaping of the image of the future generation of Israel. The imparting of knowledge, moral norms, human and national principles, will aid in the building of a productive and just society.

9.2. The government views investment in education as an investment in the human capital of the state, and will act towards the allocation of adequate resources to ensure a suitable education in all levels, from infancy through elementary, secondary and higher education.

9.3. Education will be based on the eternal values of the people of Israel, on the values of democracy, tolerance and human culture.

9.4. The government will act methodically and determinedly to bridge the educational and social gaps through education, and making education a tool for bridging the contradictions and polarization in Israeli society. The government will strive toward the full integration of all immigrant communities in Israeli society.

9.5. The government will conduct a long education day within the entire education system. The government will make an effort to implement a long day already in the coming school year in development towns and neighborhoods.

9.6. The government will ensure equality between all the educational streams at all levels.

9.7. The government will base the scope of the budgets, including the budgets given for development of culture and for elementary, secondary, and higher education, and for yeshiva and religious school students, on an equal and uniform basis. The prime minister will appoint a committee to evaluate and implement the above paragraph.

9.8. All special allocations will be cancelled. The Law for National Economy Arrangements, (legislation amendments) of 1992 will be implemented in full.

9.9. The government will encourage special education programs on the topic of tolerance and coexistence.

9.10. The government will act toward the improvement of the learning conditions and of the teaching level in Arab and Druze villages and will assure them conditions equal to those of schools in the Jewish sector.

9.11. A. The government regards higher education and institutions for higher education as a central incentive for the scientific, technological and cultural progress of Israel, which constitutes an important support for the economic and social prosperity of the state.

B. The government will act to increase the absorption capability of the institutions of higher education to ensure that every student can study regardless of their economic situation. The research budget in institutions for higher education will be increased.

9.12. The government will act to encourage and develop the religious education and culture.

9.13. The government will act to encourage original Israeli creativity in all spheres—literature, arts, theater, film, television and other fields. The resources granted to cultural institutions and their distribution will guarantee the above goals and their independence from the government.

9.14. The government will act toward the education of the arts and education of aesthetics and their fostering from infancy.

9.15. The government will allocate financial resources to the unions and sports organizations, the development of competitive sports, the support of performance sports and to the absorption of immigrant trainers and sportsmen in every context.

10. SETTLEMENT

10.1. The government regards settlement in all its forms, as an undertaking of crucial value, to be consolidated and strengthened. The government will adopt an agricultural and economic policy which will reenable settlement to confront the special problems it is faced with.

11. ARABS AND DRUZE

11.1. The policy of the government of Israel will be directed towards the full integration of the Arab and Druze citizens in Israel in all aspects of life in the state while respecting their religious and cultural distinction and guaranteeing equality for all citizens of the state.

11.2. The government will act to close the gaps between the Jewish and Arab populations in the fields of education, welfare, industry and crafts, agriculture, housing, youth and health services.

11.3. The government will act to equate the budgets and regulations of the Arab, Druze and Bedouin authorities to those of the Jewish authorities.

11.4. Special efforts will be made to absorb Arabs and Druze, especially academics in the civil service and other public institutions, in all levels of administration in order to include them in state and public responsibility.

11.5. The government will act toward the final approval of the blueprint for Arab, Druze and Bedouin settlements.

11.6. The government will examine the problem of unrecognized Arab settlements and will accelerate the approval of blueprints to extend the existing Arab and Druze villages, in order to solve the housing problem.

11.7. A special committee on Moslem religious property will be established, to arrange for its administration by the Moslem community, in the same manner the properties of other communities are administered.

11.8. The government will act to the finding of an arrangement for the Bedouin problem in the Negev, which shall be based on a combined solution to the lands problem and that of Bedouin settlement.

11.9. The Druze community has linked its fate to the Jewish people and the State of Israel and has strengthened this link due to the compulsory service of Druze and Circassians in the IDF. The government will act toward the completion of a law of equality for Druze and will operate a special program for released Druze soldiers in housing and employment.

12. GOVERNMENT AND THE CITIZEN

12.1. The government will act to guarantee the values of social justice, equality, liberty, responsibility for one's fellow man, integrity, the fostering of mutual respect between men and creation of a democratic entity, equal rights to all residents regardless of religion, race, nationality, or gender.

12.2. The government will complete the legislation of the basic laws in order to bring about the formulation of a constitution.

12.3. The possibility of changing the emergency defense regulations in Israeli law will be examined.

12.4. The government will discuss the State Comptroller's report, will draw lessons from the criticism and will act toward the correction of deficiencies, an orderly administration, and the eradication of the phenomenon of corruption.

12.5. The government will combat crime and violence and will act to inculcate the recognition of the supremacy of the rule of law.

12.6. The government will persevere in expanding the independence of local government and the reduction of its dependence on the central government. The government will set permanent, clear and equal criteria for the distribution of grants of the Interior Ministry and the Treasury to local authorities and will heed their implementation.

12.7. The government will act toward the strengthening of the status and rights of the citizen through the implementation of the recommendations of the Kubersky Commission on the civil service on all issues including the limitation of the use of information on citizens.

12.8. In light of the negative incidents and shortcomings revealed in the functioning of the regime in Israel, the government will act toward the fortification of the democratic rule, the implementation of the law for direct elections of Prime Minister, the change of the electoral system to the Knesset, with the goal of reinforcing the operational capabilities of the government and strengthening the connection between the electorate and the elected.

12.9. The government will act toward the prevention of politicization of the public administration, to assure the civil status of public service workers, and will strictly observe the behavior of the public administration employees according to acceptable norms.

12.10. The government will allocate resources for the improvement of conditions in prisons and detention facilities.

12.11. The government will guarantee the independence of the Broadcasting Authority. Public state inspection of the electronic media will be done with no political intervention.

13. ENVIRONMENT

13.1. The government will protect the environment, will act to prevent the pollution of water and air and will act to uproot or reduce the various ecological hazards of toxic materials and nuclear radiation.

14. TRANSPORTATION

14.1. The government will not accept the increasing traffic "bottlenecks" and the convoys on the roads and will act toward a solution of the traffic problem.

14.2. The government will give priority to the struggle against road accidents and will allocate resources to deal with the causes of road accidents.

14.3. The government will pave access roads to Jewish, Arab and Druze settlements throughout the country, according to the priority to be determined.

15. RELEASED SOLDIERS

15.1. The government will pass the law of released soldiers, which will guarantee rights to every released soldier in the areas of employment, housing, education and professional training.

Herzog on Public's 'Great Expectations' for Rabin

TA1407082792 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0800 GMT 14 Jul 92

[Text] President Hayim Herzog has met with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin in private. Afterwards, Herzog said that since the public clearly voiced its positions during the elections, it is now up to the new government to respond. The president pointed out that the great expectations generated by the election results and the impatience shown by some of the public are not making things easy for the new government. If the public becomes convinced that the government really intends to improve the lot of the man in the street, all their expectations will have been met. President Herzog expressed the hope that Rabin's government will succeed in its tasks and primarily in promoting the peace process.

Yitzhaq Rabin said that the test of his government will be whether it succeeds in implementing the promises made by Labor during the election campaign. Nevertheless, he pointed out that there are certain problems that cannot be resolved immediately.

Afterwards, Rabin presented the members of his cabinet to President Herzog.

Stance on Chemical Nonproliferation Treaty Outlined

TA1607121192 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 16 Jul 92 pp A1, A8

[Report by Aluf Ben]

[Excerpt] In one of its coming meetings, the cabinet will discuss the Israeli position on the international treaty for chemical nonproliferation, in anticipation of the treaty's expected endorsement at the Geneva Disarmament Committee in August. Professional teams at the Defense and Foreign Ministries are currently formulating the position, which will be brought up for the political echelons' approval in due time.

The chemical nonproliferation treaty was prepared by the international 40-member Disarmament Committee. Germany represents the committee in talks with various governments joining the treaty, and on 14 July, the German deputy foreign minister, Dr. Josef Holick [name and title as published], visited Israel for talks with relevant Israeli elements.

Holick met with Foreign Ministry Director General Yosef Hadas, Disarmament Affairs Division Director Yehi'el Yativ, and Yequti'el Mor, the foreign affairs director at the Defense Ministry. The officials acquainted the visitor with Israel's terms for joining the treaty and were briefed on his visits to Pakistan and Iran. Yesterday the German official left for Egypt, where he will present the Israeli positions.

Last year, the government decided that Israel was ready in principle to join the chemical nonproliferation treaty, but because of the state of war in the Middle East and the tangible danger of chemical weapons, which were employed in the Iran-Iraq war, the government presented conditions.

In his speech at the UN General Assembly in October 1991, former Foreign Minister David Levi said that Israel is in favor of the treaty, but to ensure its efficacy, Israel demands that all the countries in the region join the treaty.

This stand is countered by the demands of several Arab countries, which render their joining the chemical nonproliferation treaty contingent on Israel's signing the treaty for nuclear nonproliferation.

In talks with the German representative, the Israelis presented additional demands:

—A regional inspection forum for chemical weapons, which will take the region's special problems into account, is to be established in the Middle East. A similar forum exists between warring India and Pakistan, which have already agreed to join the chemical nonproliferation treaty.

—The clause allowing every country to revoke its participation in the treaty upon a three-month notice will be

amended. Israel argues that this period is too short, as it will allow seceding countries to rearm rapidly.

—Israel objects to surprise visits by international inspectors searching for chemical weapons.

—Israel is to be guaranteed a representation on the executive committee of the body that will implement the treaty. Under the emerging agreement, some 40 countries will be represented in the executive committee on a regional-geographic basis. Israel wants to be classified with the Asian group, where Arab countries have a majority. This problem has come up in numerous international forums, including even sports. [passage omitted]

Palestinian Interim Bodies To Be Created

TA1607113692 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 16 Jul 92 p A4

[Report by Yosi Torpstein; words in boldface as published]

[Excerpts] A number of Palestinian supreme bodies have recently been set up in the territories to concentrate the handling of economic, social, and cultural affairs. Some of these bodies have already begun to operate, and others are in the initial stages of being set up. Other actions are also being taken to prepare for the establishment of Palestinian self-government.

Since the peace process began in late October 1991, the process of establishing Palestinian institutions which are due to become the organizational infrastructure for the Palestinian self- government during the interim period has been accelerated. The expectation that aid funds from the EC and other countries will flow in has provided the impetus to establish key agencies to absorb the aid and to invest it in various fields in the territories. This drive is aided by the EC's condition that agencies be established to distribute the funds in an organized way. [passage omitted]

The following is a list of fields in which it has recently become clear that the Palestinian leadership is making preparations, with varying degrees of success, to set up supreme bodies as an institutional infrastructure for the future:

Preparations for the holding of general elections for a 180-member legislative council:

A committee was recently established aimed at working out the final draft of a Palestinian election law. The committee includes four members of the Palestinian delegation to the peace talks, and its legal adviser is Attorney Raj'a Shihadah of Ramallah. Late last week several of them left for Amman for this purpose. The Palestinians aspire to hold the elections in October. Next Monday, PLO forums in Tunis will discuss the issue.

Preparations for public political activity: Palestinian sources said that people are organizing for political activity. Already after the Madrid conference Sari Nusaybah and Ziyad Abu-Zayyad set up political committees which some Palestinians viewed as a possible basis for a political party of Fatah circles that support the delegation to the peace process, but at this stage they are not operating openly. Even the establishment of the "Association for Social Solidarity" last month by Radwan Abu-'Ayyash is called by Palestinians and foreigners a basis for an opposition party to Faysal al-Husayni's leadership. But there are also those who view that association as a basis for a ministry for social affairs within the framework of Palestinian rule.

Economics: Efforts over the past year to set up "A Supreme Economic Council" and "The Palestinian Industrial Council" have failed, among other things, due to opposing interests by competing economic elements and political rivalries between the various PLO organizations. In the financial field, three of the four Palestinian credit institutions in the territories recently prepared a draft agreement for the establishment of a joint supreme management to decide on loans policy, priorities, and the granting of loans. The Palestinian leadership's aim is to convert that body into a central bank for loans and development in the territories. Another institution set up early this year is "The Palestine-Europe Chamber of Commerce," aimed at encouraging trade ties with Europe, in particular Palestinian exports to that continent.

Culture and Information: In the midst of 1991 the "The Palestinian Council for Cultural and Information Affairs," the umbrella organization for 22 cultural organizations and press bodies, was set up. The council, headed by Ibrahim Kar'in, the owner of a Jerusalem press office, is supposed to coordinate and encourage Palestinian cultural activities in the territories.

Broadcasting Authority and Cinema: "The al-Quds Institute for Cinema and Television," which organized a "Palestinian Film Week" last month, was recently established. The initiative for the establishment of the institute comes from Da'ud Kuttab's television firm set up in 1990. It is aimed at preparing the infrastructure for a Palestinian broadcasting authority. In early July Kar'in and Kuttab participated in a media convention in Rome where they received promises of Italian aid for the establishment of an infrastructure for Palestinian television.

Tourism: Last Saturday "The Supreme Council for the Arab Tourism Industry" was set up. It embraces the six organizations dealing with tourism in the territories. Of the emergency aid allocated by the EC, $4 million will be used for developing tourism. The amount will be distributed by the Palestinian credit institutions in consultation with the tourism council.

Health: Recently a team was set up under Dr. Ziyad 'Abdin with the job of formulating an overall plan for the Palestinian health service to include the services extended by the Civil Administration and those handled

by Palestinian bodies, such as the medical association, and the committees for medical aid run by the various PLO organizations. According to Palestinian sources, the preparations for that plan are almost completed. Efforts to set up a supreme council for health affairs some three years ago by these bodies failed. When the plan is completed, the Palestinians hope it will be possible to set up a supreme health council.

Ecology and Nature Protection: Teachers in the Jerusalem, Ramallah, and Bethlehem areas recently set up an organization to protect nature. The initiators, headed by 'Imad al-Atrash from Bayt Sahur, intend to expand their activities throughout the territories and become an authorized body.

Education: For several years "The Council for Higher Education," the umbrella organization for the colleges and universities in the territories, has been operating in the territories. Last year, there were attempts to give the council more effective coordinating powers. Early this week a convention of the PLO's Supreme Council for Culture, Education, and Science—in which educators and university heads in the territories participated—ended in Cairo. The meeting studied ways to integrate Palestinian educational plans from elementary school to university.

Rubinstein To Head Negotiations With Palestinians

TA1507112992 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 1000 GMT 15 Jul 92

[Text] The incoming government secretary Eli Rubinstein is to resign his office as deputy attorney general for three months to serve as cabinet secretary and head of the negotiating team with the Palestinians. This has been agreed upon by Justice Minister Liba'i, the attorney general, and Rubinstein.

Slonim To Resume Work on POW-MIA Issue

TA1507145192 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 15 Jul 92 p 3

[Report by military correspondent Dani Sade]

[Text] Yitzhaq Rabin, prime minister and defense minister, yesterday contacted Attorney Uri Slonim and asked him to resume handling the issue of the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] MIA's and POW's.

Slonim told Rabin that he agrees to the request and will continue dealing with the issue as a volunteer, free of charge, as before.

Several months ago Slonim, after dealing with the task for several years, asked former Defense Minister Moshe Arens to be relieved of it.

It has been learned that in the near future, Rabin intends to speed up work on the issue of the IDF POW's and MIA's, including navigator Ron Arad, in view of recent reports received in Israel that contain some hope, at least regarding Arad.

New Police Minister on Der'i Probe, Terrorism

TA1407181392 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1400 GMT 14 Jul 92

[Excerpt] Upon receiving the Police Ministry and visiting its premises and the Israel Police national headquarters for the first time, Moshe Shahal stated: I fell in love with the ministry. Outgoing Minister Roni Milo promised Shahal he would have an enjoyable and interesting job.

The incumbent minister said he would not deal personally with the investigation of Interior Minister Arye Der'i and would not discuss it with any cabinet member except Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin.

Referring to internal security, Shahal said the intifadah and terrorist attacks would be handled in accordance with the government's policy—that is, firmly—concurrently with action in the political sphere. [passage omitted]

United Torah Jewry's Peretz Resigns From Knesset

TA1407135692 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1100 GMT 14 Jul 92

[Text] United Torah Jewry Knesset Member Yitzhaq Peretz has submitted his letter of resignation to Knesset Speaker Shevah Weiss. Rabbi Peretz told our correspondent Hayim Hecht that he was promised a ministerial portfolio if United Torah Jewry joins the coalition. Peretz explained that he had resigned in the wake of the heavy pressure exerted on Rabbi Schach by party hacks; he had refused to resign, however, until United Torah Jewry transferred 250,000 shekels to his Moriya faction.

Jordan Said Permitting Entry of UN Team

JN1507105792 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Arabic 1030 GMT 15 Jul 92

[Text] The Jordanian Government has decided to allow an international team to inspect the Jordanian-Iraqi border at the end of this month in order to become acquainted with the Jordanian efforts to prevent the smuggling of logistic materials into Iraq in blatant violation of the international embargo against Iraq.

Speaking on condition of anonymity, an official Jordanian source today said the 14-member international team will arrive in Amman at the end of this month in response to a request by UN Secretary General Dr. Butrus Ghali.

Rabin To Discuss Syrian Arms With Baker

TA1507143392 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 15 Jul 92 p. A1

[Report by Eytan Rabin]

[Text] Syria recently has received another shipment of Scud missiles from North Korea.

Unlike the previous shipments, which contained Scud-B missiles with a range of 250 km, the current shipment contains upgraded Scud- C's with a range of some 500 km.

The shipment was flown into Syria from the Persian Gulf, where it arrived aboard ships from North Korea. That was done to try to avoid U.S. surveillance ships in the region.

U.S. sources have said that this is the third shipment of Scud missiles to arrive in Syria from North Korea in the past several months. According to them, there are dozens of Scud-C and Scud-B missiles in Syria today.

Sources in the defense establishment have noted that along with the missiles, Syria recently has purchased self-propelled guns, and that since the end of the Gulf war the Syrian military has intensified its procurement of modern arms. According to military sources, the Syrian military has obtained upgraded T-72 tanks and advanced MiG-29 and Sukhoi-29 planes, among other things.

The military sources added that the Syrian decision to upgrade its military equipment came in light of an improvement in Syria's economic situation. It also was the source of Syria's decision to try to be able to manufacture nuclear arms within 10 years.

A senior source at the new prime minister's bureau has said that the problem of the Syrian military buildup and the Middle East arms race will be raised in the discussions that Yitzhaq Rabin, prime minister and defense minister, will hold with U.S. Secretary of State James Baker, who will arrive in Israel on 19 July.

Diplomats Stationed in 3 CIS Republics

TA1207105392 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 2000 GMT 11 Jul 92

[Text) Israel is expanding its diplomatic presence in the CIS republics. Our correspondent in Moscow Mikha'el Karpin reports that over the past several days, Israeli diplomats have been stationed in the Ukraine, Moldova, and Azerbaijan. Two more will be stationed soon in Georgia and Kyrgystan. At this stage, the diplomats bear the title acting charge d'affaires. They prepare the terms for immigrant and tourist visas to Israel.

Russian Vice President Aleksandr Rutskoy has said that a joint Israeli-Russian agricultural project will be set up in the rural Voronezh Province, south of Moscow. The industrial and agricultural project will be financed by Israeli credit, among others. Our Moscow-based correspondent reports that the project is the result of Rutskoy's recent visit to Israel and is based on the official agreement signed in Israel. Our correspondent notes that several Israeli agricultural firms and kibbutzim may join the project.

Outgoing Labor MK Ya'aqobi To Be UN Ambassador

TA1207105492 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 1000 GMT 12 Jul 92

[Text] Outgoing Knesset Member [MK] Gad Ya'aqobi is to appointed Israel's ambassador to the United Nations. This was decided on this morning during a meeting Ya'aqobi had with Yitzhaq Rabin. The appointment has the approval of incoming Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres.

Herzog Leaves on Official Visit to Turkey

TA1507113292 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 1000 GMT 15 Jul 92

[Text] President Hayim Herzog left this morning on an official two-day visit to Turkey. Herzog will meet with Turkish President Turgut Ozal and Prime Minister Suleyman Demirel. He will also participate in a ceremony organized by the Turkish Government and the Jewish community to mark 500 years since the expulsion of Jews from Spain to the Ottoman Empire. Diplomatic ties between the two countries were raised to the ambassadorial level several months ago and, it is the first trip by an Israeli president to Turkey.

Rabin, Chilean Minister Discuss Cooperation

TA1507144292 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1400 GMT 15 Jul 92

[Text] Yitzhaq Rabin, prime minister and defense minister, this morning met with the Chilean defense minister, who is visiting Israel as the guest of the Defense Ministry. The two discussed joint defense projects, mainly the cooperation between the Israeli and Chilean defense industries.

Yitzhaq Rabin said that Israel wants to tighten its ties with Chile, mainly because it has become a democratic state.

Minister Denies Allowing UN To Inspect Border

JN1507160392 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 1500 GMT 15 Jul 92

[Excerpts] Responding to a question on a report carried by some foreign news agencies that Jordan has decided to allow an international inspection team inspect its border with Iraq, Information Minister Mahmud al-Sharif said these reports are absolutely unfounded and fabricated and that Jordan has not and will never allow UN inspectors to monitor its border with Iraq.

The information minister also said that Jordan is a prominent area of this part of the world in terms of its democratic system, its strategic location, the wisdom of its leadership, and the policy of moderation it is firmly pursuing. [passage omitted]

The minister responded to questions posed by the members of a Belgian youth delegation which focused on the role of the Information Ministry's organs and the Jordanian press in communicating facts to all the local, Arab, and international circles, in expressing the real picture of the people's interests and aspirations, and in explaining to local and world public opinions the Jordanian positions in light of the principles in which it believes. [passage omitted]

Reports 'Unfounded'

JN1607075292 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 16-17 Jul 92 pp 1, 5

[By JORDAN TIMES staff reporter Nirmin Murad]

[Text] Amman—Jordan categorically denied Wednesday reports that it will allow a team of U.N. officials to visit the border with Iraq and reiterated its firm position against "any measures which will infringe on its credibility or sovereignty."

"We totally deny this report," a senior Jordanian official told the Jordan Times when asked to confirm a press report claiming that Jordan will allow a 14-member U.N. team to conduct a fact-finding mission to the Jordan-Iraq border by the end of July.

"We have not been approached by anyone on this issue and we will not accept any presence of U.N. inspectors on our territories," the official said.

Minister of Information Mahmud al-Sharif Wednesday issued a statement echoing this position. "These reports are unfounded and are fabricated. Jordan has not and will not accept visits by U.N. inspectors to monitor its borders with Iraq," Mr. al-Sharif told the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

The Associated Press in Amman had quoted an unidentified Jordanian official as saying that U.N. Secretary General Butrus-Ghali "told the government that he plans to dispatch a team of experts for fact-finding mission to the Jordanian-Iraqi border."

"We accepted the request and told the secretary-general that the team is welcome in Jordan so long as its mission will be temporary," the American news agency quoted the official as saying.

"We want to close this chapter once and for all. We will not accept any measure which will put our credibility in doubt or infringe on our sovereignty," said the senior Jordanian official, who spoke to the Jordan Times on condition of anonymity.

The AP report came out one day after Prime Minister al-Sharif Zayd Bin-Shakir made an unannounced visit to the al-Ruwayshid crossing post at the kingdom's border with Iraq.

The prime minister, who was accompanied on the trip by a top-level delegation including the interior minister, was to inspect new facilities being built to improve efficiency at the border post, which was moved closer to the Iraqi frontier last year to increase control.

Al-Sharif Zayd's visit also seemed to signify a top-level interest in the inspection process carried out on trucks entering and leaving Iraq for goods banned under the U.N. sactions programme against Iraq. Officials, however, withheld comment on this aspect of the visit.

The Kingdom has been coming under increasing pressure from the United States for reports accusing it of being the scene of alleged sanctions-busting which last month culminated in a U.N. proposal to deploy U.N. observers at the Red Sea port of al-'Aqabah and allow them free access to the borders with Iraq.

The proposal, which came to be known as the al-'Aqabah plus proposal, was rejected by the Kingdom which saw in it an attempt to undermine Jordan's credibility which had repeatedly underlined its commitment to applying the provisions of the regime of sanctions as prescribed by the international community.

Measures to contol and monitor the flow of goods into Iraq have become tighter almost cutting off all trade with Iraq, especially from duty-free zones where importers bring their goods before ferrying them by trucks to Iraq.

According to traders and businessmen interviewed by the Jordan Times, the Ministry of Finance has recently appointed a committee entrusted with checking and rechecking goods in these zones. They said that new measures, including preparing detailed manifests of the goods and providing exact weight and type of each imported product, exact extra time and money from their dealings.

In fact, some investors in the al-Zarqa' Free Zone who complained about these measures, said that the situation has become intolerable and trade with Iraq has almost come to a halt.

"If things continue at this level we are thinking of forming a committee of investors to discuss this problem

with the finance minister," one of the investors, who asked he remain anonymous, told the Jordan Times.

Most of the traders and investors interviewed said they understood the reasons behind the ministry's move to tighten procedures at the free zone but said the move would hit them badly. "We understand that Jordan is under pressure to behave this way, but we are also losing our business and some of us are thinking of packing and leaving the free zone," another investor said.

Apart from the need to back up Jordan's declared position of imposing sanctions on Iraq, the al-Zarqa' Free Zone has also been witness to two cases of smuggling of cigarettes and whiskey to the local market in Jordan. One of the cases is pending in court and involves a well-known businessman. Reaction to that case was quick and firm from the responsible authorities, especially that it unveiled cracks in the system of operation at the free zone.

"We cannot tolerate smuggling and cheating in our midst," a senior official told the Jordan Times in response to the investors' complaints.

"At this particular stage of our history where we are trying to institutionalise democracy and proper legal procedures we are also falling under pressure from all sides to ensure the proper implementaiton of sanctions (against Iraq)," the senior official said.

Minister Discusses Relations, Regional Issues

NC1507124892 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0946 GMT 15 Jul 92

[Report on an interview with Jordanian Information Minister Mahmud al-Sharif by an unidentified MENA correspondent in Amman on 14 July]

[Text] Jordanian Information Minister Mahmud al-Sharif has said his country seeks to establish new good relations with Egypt, the Arab nation's big sister with a pioneering role in the region. He noted reciprocal respect and appreciation between President Husni Mubarak and Jordan's King Husayn.

Al-Sharif said he hopes an Egyptian-Jordanian meeting will be held soon. He pointed out that Jordan recently took more than one initiative toward strengthening its relations with Egypt, saying: We hope relations will return to normal.

In an interview with MENA, he called for healing the Gulf war wounds and for diverting attention to the future of the Arab region, which faces serious challenges and a new world order in which every balance has been turned upside down. He said Arabs should not face this situation while they are divided; they should be united.

Commenting on Jordanian-Gulf relations, he said: Regrettably, they are still a captive of the Gulf war that has ended, but which must be transcended. Jordan has sent signals to the Gulf states through intermediaries, but we do not sense the response we expected. We realize the war hurt, but it is not in our interest to remain prisoner to this sedition.

He said: Jordan's relations with the Iraqi people are ties of friendship and affection. We are pained by this people's suffering because of the blockade. No one can ignore the importance of Iraq as a state in the region. He said he regrets that the war's repercussions are about to fragment and partition Iraq, a pan-Arab catastrophe we must work to avoid whatever the nature of the regime in Iraq.

As for Jordanian-U.S. relations, he noted that King Husayn's visit to Washington had ended a cold spell resulting from the Gulf crisis, but that Congress still has lingering feelings about Jordan's role in this war. These feelings have affected the U.S. Administration and perhaps prompted it to demand that observers be stationed on the Iraqi-Jordanian border. He said he rejects such measures because Jordan implements the UN resolutions regardless of how it feels about them.

Commenting on Rabin's call to Arab leaders to visit occupied Jerusalem, the Jordanian information minister said: I believe this call is not [words indistinct], even if it reflects good intentions. What is important now is to implement measures such as halting settlement building and establishing a Palestinian national authority over Palestinian land. He [Rabin] should declare a clear stand on withdrawal from the Golan, on exchanging land for peace, and on respect for Resolution 242. Then visits would be possible. He said: I believe Rabin's call is not addressed to the Arab leaders, but to the United States, with a view to creating a positive atmosphere for him in Washington when he discusses the loan issue.

Al-Sharif said the peace talks are useful and that Arab and Palestinian political statements and Arab acceptance of the principle of peace have played a role in changing the political climate and government in Israel. Thus, he added, the Arabs will lose nothing if they commit themselves to the peace moves. Besides, the world now better understands the Palestinian right and Arab position.

On the Arab information ministers' conference, he said the meeting scheduled for August had been postponed until September at the request of [Egyptian Information Minister] Safwat al-Sharif.

As for the domestic situation in Jordan, he said the democratic experiment (?began) in early 1989. He said the leadership and people are determined to enhance it and that the multi-party system has been endorsed through a very advanced party law. He maintained that under this law there are no conditions or restrictions on forming parties; they should be Jordanian national parties, should not receive instructions or finance from abroad, and their principles and goals should be in line with the Constitution.

Answering a question, he said the Islamic movements have no specific program for dealing with modern world problems. Their intellectuals, he added, admit to this on the grounds that the practice of interpreting religious texts ceased centuries ago and they are raising slogans that seem attractive to the people and respond to their instinctive yearning for religion and closeness to God.

He said: The Islamic movement in Jordan is a national one and we have incorporated it in the system so that it will put forth its ideas reasonably, without relying on violence in language or in peace [as received]. They talk sense in parliament, where they accept some ideas and reject others.

Iraqi Rebels Report King Conducting Army Purge

NC1507150892 (Clandestine) Voice of the Iraqi People in Arabic 1400 GMT 15 Jul 92

[Text] Jordan's King Husayn has begun purging Jordanian Army officers who have maintained close links with tyrant Saddam Husayn's regime for the past 10 years. An Arab diplomatic source told the Kuwaiti newspaper AL-QABAS yesterday that King Husayn was shocked to learn that officers on whom he relies to protect his regime are members of a team that was planning a coup against him. Saddam's intelligence service also reportedly was involved in planning the coup.

The source said that these officers claim that King Husayn is participating in a plan to overthrow Saddam's dictatorial regime. One of the officers, the commander of an armored battalion, recently ordered that a wall of earth built on the Jordanian-Iraqi border to prevent smuggling of banned material to the outcast regime be removed.

King Husayn Leaves for Damascus 16 Jul

JN1607102292 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 1000 GMT 16 Jul 92

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn left Amman for Damascus this morning on a short working visit. During the visit, he will meet with His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad, president of the Syrian Arab Republic.

This visit is within the context of his majesty's eagerness to exchange views and consult with the brothers on the latest developments in the region and their impact on the peace process, and to consolidate coordination among the Arab brothers.

His majesty was seen off by His Highness Crown Prince Hasan, His Highness Prince Faysal Bin-al-Husayn, the House of Representatives speaker and the Senate president, the deputy prime ministers, his majesty's personal secretary, other officials, and the Syrian charge d'affaires in Amman.

His majesty is accompanied on this visit by Prime Minister al-Sharif Zayd Bin-Shakir, Royal Hashemite Court Chief Dr. Khalid al-Karaki, and Foreign Minister Dr. Kamil Abu-Jabir.

Further on Buwayz' Refusal To Meet Baker

Beirut Radio Reports

NC1507145592 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1300 GMT 15 Jul 92

[Text] At a news conference a short while ago, Foreign Minister Faris Buwayz said he refuses to meet with U.S. Secretary of State James Baker outside Lebanon.

U.S. Ambassador Ryan Crocker conveyed to Minister Buwayz Baker's desire to meet with him in one of the Arab capitals he intends to visit during his upcoming Middle East tour.

Buwayz Cites 'National Dignity'

NC1507174892 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1530 GMT 15 Jul 92

[Statement and news conference by Foreign Minister Faris Buwayz with unidentified correspondents on 15 July, place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Buwayz] U.S. Secretary of State James Baker informed me of his desire to meet me in one of the capitals he intends to visit during his upcoming regional tour. I believe, however, that from now on—even though we understand and respect the security considerations that prevent Secretary Baker from visiting Lebanon—we also have some considerations related to our national dignity that do not allow us to meet outside Lebanese territory, particularly considering that Secretary Baker will visit a number of states involved in the peace process. Thus, we do not believe that any meeting outside Lebanese territory will serve our goals, and, accordingly, we cannot accept the invitation.

[Correspondent] Mr. Rabin invited the leaders of Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, and Palestine to visit Jerusalem to promote peace. What is your view about this invitation?
[Buwayz] I believe that meetings are a means of serving specific political goals. Accordingly, any meeting preceding a clear Israeli acknowledgement of Arab rights and a commitment to the principles of the peace process, in addition to international legitimacy's resolutions, will be void of substance and, therefore, pointless. I do not imagine that any Arab official could agree to this sort of meeting before Israel announces its unequivocal, clear, and frank commitment to implementing international legitimacy's resolutions.

[Correspondent] Has the United States been informed of your position regarding Secretary Baker's invitation?
[Buwayz] Naturally. I informed the U.S. ambassador in Lebanon that I would not be able to respond to this invitation in any country except Lebanon. I believe that following the positive developments that have occurred in Lebanon in the past few months, there must be a change in the nature of dealing with Lebanon at all levels. We believe that if Lebanon is treated in a sound and logical way, it will actually ensure that the objectives of sovereignty, independence, national unity, and the march of accord—which everybody calls for—will be implemented.

[Correspondent] [words indistinct] Djerejian will visit Beirut?
[Buwayz] I do not believe that any variation in the level or circumstances between visiting Beirut and any other country concerned with the Middle East peace issue will be constructive or serve any constructive goal.

[Correspondent] Do you believe the bilateral negotiations in Rome will take place this month or are contacts still under way on this matter, considering that the U.S. ambassador visited you yesterday and telephoned you today?
[Buwayz] I imagine that the date of the bilateral talks will be fixed following the Damascus meeting of the foreign ministers of the countries concerned with the bilateral talks. In addition, Secretary Baker's tour of the region will probably be taken into consideration.

[Correspondent] Has a date been set for the Damascus meeting?
[Buwayz] Yes. It will take place from 23 to 25 July.

[Correspondent] Do you believe that the Palestinian-Israeli talks will precede talks between Israel, Syria, and Lebanon, and....[recording interrupted; report ends]

Syria's al-Asad Assures Security for Elections

NC1507122492 Shanayh Voice of the Mountain in Arabic 1130 GMT 15 Jul 92

[Text] Lebanese official sources stated that Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad told Lebanese President Ilyas al-Hirawi that Syria will spare no efforts in creating a favorable security and political atmosphere for the candidates and the electorate.

The London-based newspaper AL-HAYAH quotes the same sources as saying that Syria backs all the measures that the Lebanese Government intends to take, including the Lebanonization [as heard] of security during the elections. Al-Asad added that the Syrian troops are at the disposal of the Lebanese Government, which is authorized to give orders to them and even to remove any Syrian checkpoint it believes might cause sensitivity to any Lebanese faction.

According to the same sources, President al-Asad emphasized that Syria insists on letting the election process take its course. He added: We have no preferences among the candidates and will keep a distance from everybody.

SLA-Sponsored Rally Protests Elections

NC1507182092 Paris AFP in English 1755 GMT 15 Jul 92

[Text] BURJ AL-MULUK, Lebanon, July 15 (AFP) - Several hundred people staged a rally here in south Lebanon on Wednesday against the pro-Syrian government's plans to hold elections despite occupation.

The Israeli-sponsored South Lebanon Army (SLA) organised the rally at this village outside Marj 'Uyun, in the "security zone" Israel maintains to protect its northern boder.

Christian, Druze and Shiite leaders from the area told the gathering, some of whom carried banners stating "No elections under occupation", that a ballot could not be staged until conditions altered.

SLA chief Antoine Lahd warned on Monday against elections in which those living in the border zone and Jazzin area would be forced to travel north to vote.

Christian-led opponents of the plans want Syrian troops to pull back to the al-Biqa' valley and resettlement for thousands of displaced people before the first elections in 21 years go ahead.

Syrian Withdrawal 'Will Not Occur' in Sept

NC1607093492 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 GMT 16 Jul 92

[Text] Syrian Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam said that the withdrawal of Syrian forces to eastern Lebanon will not occur in September. He stated: We will be here in September and even after that, which we say to those who want to be certain about this point.

Khaddam referred to the al-Ta'if Accord, which calls for Syrian withdrawal to the al-Biqa' Plain, in a statement today to L'ORIENT LE JOUR. He stated: The two-year period stipulated in the accord begins with the constitutional adoption of the political reforms.

Palestinian Weapons Not To Be Collected

NC1507115992 Beirut AL-DIYAR in Arabic 8 Jul 92 p 14

[Report by Yasir al-Hariri]

[Excerpt] Contacts are underway in official circles and among political leaders to overcome the obstacles in implementing the Cabinet decision to collect light weapons according to a set timetable. Official emphasis is on the decision being implemented whatever the circumstances.

Within this framework and due to the special circumstances in the south, the leaders continue to discuss whether to include Palestinian weapons in the Lebanese decision.

Palestinian sources in the Fatah Movement stated that there is no problem about light Palestinian weapons in the camps, because PLO and Lebanese Government officials who are concerned with the issue agreed to keep light weapons inside the camps in view of security requirements, particularly those in the camps in southern Lebanon, the almost constant state of alert, and the possibility of Israeli commando operations that are expected from one minute to the next. Agreement was also reached that Palestinian weapons will not be carried for security purposes outside the camps, so ensuring that the PLO groups are not being seen to violate the agreements reached by Lebanese and Palestinian leaders. This also applies to the camps in the north.

The same Palestinian sources noted that the issue is linked with developments in the southern military arena and that everyone understands the significance of the situation. Weapons carried by any Palestinian or any other party outside the camps will be subject to the Lebanese decision in the same way it applies to Lebanese weapons. The sources stated that the PLO does not intend to perform the competent Lebanese security authorities' task, and, when the circumstances develop, these authorities and organizations can take over security inside the camps. Discussions are underway with Lebanese officials to organize the situation in a way that satisfies everyone, without any obstacles or difficulties, especially as the PLO deals with all Lebanese equally and is no longer a party to the Lebanese war.

A Lebanese Government source confirmed the PLO sources' remarks that light Palestinian weapons inside the camps are excluded from collection but added that the Palestinian authorities were warned that any violation of the conditions will lead to a review of the whole situation, because no sloppiness about internal security will be tolerated and no security authority other than the competent Lebanese security authorities will be allowed to operate at will. Agreement was also reached about how to organize these weapons so that they will not be used to undermine the situation, not even inside the camps, which are Lebanese territories and included in the security plan being prepared by the Army command. The Lebanese source added that if Palestinian civilians need to be protected, it will be the Lebanese state's responsibility. Security considerations, especially in the south, have now made it necessary to consider the Israeli attacks on the camps and southern towns and villages.

Despite this, the Lebanese source added, consultations continue with Palestinian leaders behind the scenes so that the issue can be integrated with the soon-to-be-implemented security plan and with the operation to collect light weapons from the Lebanese organizations. The source revealed that the contacts are being held at the highest levels and by Lebanese diplomats with the PLO leadership so that coordination and organization will be clear and unambiguous. It added: The coming stage and a favorable outcome of the developing regional and international conditions on the south and the Israeli attacks will compel the Lebanese Government to review the issue of light Palestinian weapons and security inside the Palestinian camps, which we did explain to the Palestinian brothers and what is now being discussed. [passage omitted]

Iranian Envoy Hands Velayati Message to Buwayz

NC1507175992 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1530 GMT 15 Jul 92

[Text] Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister 'Abbas Maleki, who is currently leading an official delegation on a visit

to Lebanon, today handed a written message from Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati to Foreign Minister Faris Buwayz. Speaking after his meeting with Buwayz, the Iranian official said:

[Begin recording] [Maleki] The message I conveyed to his excellency Minister Faris Buwayz from his colleague, Dr. 'Ali Akbar Velayati, deals with promoting Iranian-Lebanese relations. The first part of the letter deals with promoting political ties; the second part deals with promoting cultural and scientific relations and the possibility of promoting cooperation among research centers and universities.

[Unidentified correspondent] Could you give us more details about the political and economic assistance?
[Maleki] The fields of bilateral economic cooperation were discussed during Minister Buwayz' visit to Tehran last year and during Dr. Velayati's visit to Beirut a few weeks ago. The Lebanese trade minister is scheduled to visit Tehran soon to conclude a bilateral economic cooperation agreement that will define define areas of this cooperation. [end recording]

Paper Criticizes U.S. Policy Toward Iraq

NC1507111692 Beirut AL-DIYAR in Arabic 3 Jul 92 p 13

[Muhammad Baqir Sharri's column: "CIA Becomes Revolutionary, Acts For Iraqi People, Opposition"]

[Excerpts] Although Iraq is an important country, talk about it has become boring. The CIA's decision to "accelerate" Saddam's overthrow and to identify with the Iraqi opposition's "ideological" position will only prolong the Iraqi regime's stay in power. [passage omitted]

If the United States was concerned about its reputation and did not want to appear to be interfering in Iraq's internal affairs, the CIA director would not have come to the Middle East and would not have publicly declared that he came to consult with Israel "about the best way to overthrow Saddam Husayn."

Doesn't this represent propaganda for Saddam and prolong his regime's stay in power? Is this not a "psychological" American ignorance of Arab psychology, which rejects the overthrow of any regime, however criminal, through U.S.-Israeli cooperation? [passage omitted]

If Saddam's overthrow is really a U.S.-Israeli target, what has stopped the United States and Israel finishing him off? Or is their intention only to finish off the Iraqi people themselves? Why else would all the Iraqi weapons be removed and destroyed and the Iraqi people be starved to death while the regime plays around?

Haven't we said from the time the United States and the rest of the world started the build-up to "liberate" Kuwait that the target is not Saddam Husayn or his regime, but the Iraqi Army and people? [passage omitted]

The CIA, despite its "devilish" methods, cannot act on behalf of the Iraqi people in their struggle. It cannot even understand the Iraqi people. If the CIA wants to be "kind" to them and does not want to tighten the political noose around their necks, having tightened the economic noose, it should not have portrayed the Iraqi opposition as politically bankrupt and completely dependent on CIA efforts to "accelerate" Saddam's overthrow.

If this opposition depends on an Iranian-Saudi accord to give it the green light for a new uprising, this accord can achieve nothing if the Iraqi opposition does not deserve this accord and does not stand on firm ground.

No one can stage a revolution for someone else. If "revolutionary" leaders cannot stage their own revolution, the United States and its intelligence cannot stage it for them. Even the brothers, be they Arabs (Saudis) or Muslims (Iranians), cannot invent revolutionary leaders and issue them by "decree," especially if the decree is a combination of a royal (Saudi) decree and an Islamic (Iranian) one.

When the Iraqi opposition loses its Damascus "link," it will stray into a desert that has a beginning, but no end.

And Saddam will live safely for a long time!

Further on Israeli Operations in South

SLA Intercepts Four Infiltrators

NC1507162792 Paris AFP in English 1440 GMT 15 Jul 92

[Text] Marj'uyun, July 15 (AFP)—Pro-Israeli militiamen on Wednesday fired machine guns and rocket grenades at a group of men trying to infiltrate the "security zone" in southern Lebanon, killing one, a radio reported.

The South Lebanon Army [SLA] militia radio, Voice of the South, said an SLA unit intercepted four men at dawn near al-Qantarah as they tried to enter the central sector of the zone, designed to protect Israel from armed attacks.

A subsequent search revealed the body of a man and small arms, but the radio gave no other details.

Late Tuesday the pro-Iranian hizballah's armed wing in the region, Islamic Resistance, claimed responsibility for trying to blow up an Israeli patrol at 'Ali Tahir hill, in the same sector of the zone.

Amal—Six 'Enemy Personnel' Killed

NC1507175892 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1530 GMT 15 Jul 92

[Text] The Amal Movement issued a statement today saying that one of its groups attacked a Zionist enemy patrol in al-Qantarah area and killed six enemy personnel. One Amal fighter was martyred in the attack.

Israeli occupation forces fired four artillery shells at Qabrikha this afternoon. The Israelis also shelled al-Qantarah. Several shells landed near a UN Interim Force in Lebanon positioned near Qabrikha.

[In a related report, Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic at 1615 GMT on 15 July adds: "Security source in the south say that an explosive charge went off at 1430 today as a South Lebanese Army, SLA, patrol was passing between al-Qantarah and Zawtar. The source did not say if casualties have been reported. Following the explosion, Israeli and SLA artillery fired over 50 shells at the villages of Qabrikha, (Btarmiyah), and Tulin, causing material damage."]

Israelis Use Incendiary Shells

NC1507193392 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1900 GMT 15 Jul 92

[Text] The Israeli enemy bombarded a number of areas in southern Lebanon and western al-Biqa' today, using incendiary shells and burning a number of forests and agricultural crops.

Islamic Amal Leader Asks Government for Weapons

NC1307060392 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Arabic 1630 GMT 12 Jul 92

[Text] Husayn al-Musawi, leader of the Lebanese Islamic Amal Movement, called on the Lebanese Government to provide the resistance movement with weapons so that it can continue defending the Islamic nation and Lebanese sovereignty.

Al-Musawi, who was speaking in Ba'labakk in eastern Lebanon, stated that his movement agreed to participate in the Lebanese parliamentary elections. He said the group wants to participate in the elections to establish a resistance group in the Chamber of Deputies of those who oppose the Zionist entity and to defend the resistance in the south and western al-Biqa'.

Al-Musawi renewed his allegiance to his eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i, legal guardian of the Muslims and stressed the need to continue the struggle against global arrogance and Zionism.

* Text of Draft Electoral Law Published

92AE0493A Beirut AL-SAFIR in Arabic 16 Jun 92 p 7

[Unsigned article: "Text of Draft Parliamentary Electoral Law and Its Amendments; Election in Beirut and South on Basis of Governorate, Rest of Country on Basis of District"]

[Text] AL-SAFIR has obtained the draft electoral law and its amendments as proposed by Interior Minister Major General Sami al-Khatib. The draft law was distributed to the cabinet ministers yesterday and will be debated in today's, Tuesday, session.

The bill consists of eight foolscap pages and includes tables on the distribution of parliamentary seats by governorate and sect. It also reviews the rationale which necessitated delineating electoral districts and increasing the number of Chamber of Deputies members to 128 members.

The draft law calls for holding special elections for one session only in the districts of the Mount Lebanon Governorate, the North Lebanon Governorate, and the al-Biqa' Governorate. It also calls for merging the Ba'labakk and the al-Hirmil districts into a single electoral district and the al-Biqa' al-Gharbi and the Rashayya districts into a single electoral district. In Beirut, the South Lebanon, and the al-Nabatiyah Governorates, elections will be conducted on the basis of the governorate comprising the electoral district.

The draft law also calls for setting up special one-time polling centers for voters whose circumstances do not permit them to vote in any other centers. Following is the text of the draft law, including its tables:

Bill Amending Some Provisions of the Law on Election of Chamber of Deputies Members and Its Amendments

Article 1. Some provisions of the law on election of the Chamber of Deputies members, issued on 26 April 1960, and its amendments have been amended as follows:

First, the text of Articles 1, 2, and 3, and of Article 66 has been replaced by the following text:

"Article 1. The Chamber of Deputies of the Republic of Lebanon shall consist of 128 members who shall serve a four-year term."

"Article 2. An electoral district shall consist of the governorate."

"Article 3. The number of each sect's deputies in each electoral district shall be determined in accordance with table No. 1, attached to this law."

"Article 66. The perpetrator of any violation of this law not covered by the penal code, especially by Articles 329-334 of this code, shall be punished by a fine of 500,000 to 1,000,000 Lebanese pounds."

Second, the deposit that is stipulated by Article 35 and that a candidate for election is required to make has been set at 5 million Lebanese pounds."

Third, the following paragraph has been added at the end of Article 37:

"Only one-half the sum deposited for candidacy shall be returned to any candidate who withdraws his candidacy."

Fourth, the following phrase has been inserted at the end of the first paragraph of Article 39:

"This number may be increased to more than 400 voters per office, if this is necessitated by the distribution of the polling offices."

Article 2. The text of Article 3 of Law No. 151 of 6 May 1992 has been abolished.

Article 3. As an exception and just for one electoral session, the electoral districts shall be as follows:

The Beirut City Governorate shall form a single electoral district.

South Lebanon and al-Nabatiyah governorates shall form a single electoral district.

Each district of the North Lebanon Governorate, Mount Lebanon Governorate, and al-Biqa' Governorate shall form an electoral district, with the exception of Ba'labakk and al-Hirmil districts, which shall form a singel electoral district, and al-Biqa' al-Gharbi and Rashayya districts, which shall also form a single electoral district.

The number of each sect's deputies in each of these electoral districts shall be determined in accordance with table No. 2, attached to this law.

Article 4. The validity of the voter card stipulated in the law on election of the Chamber of Deputies members, issued on 26 April 1960, shall be suspended and shall be replaced by a certificate of civil status.

Article 5. As an exception and for just one electoral session, the electoral districts and the number of polling centers set up in these districts for voters whose circumstances do not permit them to exercise their voting right in the electoral districts noted in the above Article 3 shall be determined by decrees issued on the recommendation of the minister of interior.

Article 6. Contrary to the provisions of Article 7 of the law on election of the Chamber of Deputies members, issued on 26 April 1960, and for just one session, the electoral bodies may, on a decree adopted by the Council of Ministers, be summoned at any time to general parliamentary elections held in accordance with the rules determined by the election law and its amendments and in accordance with the special provisions stipulated in this law. This decree shall determine the dates for convening the electoral bodies and for holding the first general parliamentary election following the promulgation of this law.

Immediately upon completion of the election processes, the validity of Law No. 1 of 7 December 1989 extending the Chamber of Deputies' term shall be considered legally terminated.

Article 7. All provisions conflicting with the provisions of this law, especially Law No. 17/68 of 7 February 1968, which suspended enforcement of the voting card and replaced it by the identity card, shall be abolished.

Article 8. This law shall be enacted immediately upon its publication in the Official Gazette.

Rationale

Because the government is earnest in its effort to implement the remaining provisions of the national concord charter, especially the parts concerned with repatriating evicted persons, eliminating traces of the civil war, and holding parliamentary elections on a governorate basis, after reexamining the administrative division within the context of unity of the land, people, and institutions in a manner that ensures national fusion and safeguards coexistence;

Because the move toward security and peace is advancing in a manner that makes it possible to secure the conditions appropriate for holding general parliamentary elections before the end of the current parliamentary assembly's term, determined in accordance with Law No. 1 of 7 December 1989;

And out of its wish to develop the best frameworks and rules for holding these parliamentary elections and ushering in a new parliamentary assembly emanating from a free and constructive will;

The government has deemed it appropriate to introduce the following amendments to the law on election of the parliamentary assembly members, issued on 26 April 1960:

First, amend Article 1 of the law by adding 20 seats to the current total of parliamentary assembly seats in order to make the representation base fair and just to all segments of the society with its various factions and districts.

Second, amend Article 2 of the law by establishing the governorate as an electoral district in implementation of the national concord charter and in pursuit of greater unity and harmony among the people's various factions.

Third, amend the table attached to the law with the aim of dividing the electoral districts' parliamentary seats in accordance with the principle embraced in amending Article 24 of the constitution, meaning:
A. Equally between Christians and Muslims.
B. Proportionately among the sects of each faith.
C. Proportionately among the districts.

On the other hand, because the government to date has not been able to reexamine the administrative division according to the stipulations of the national concord charter, out of consideration for the existing conditions, and by virtue of the same considerations that motivated the parliamentary assembly to establish the rule stipulated in Article 24 of the constitution, the government deems it appropriate to enact the following exceptions on a transitional basis and for just one electoral session:

1. Merge the South Lebanon and al-Nabatiyah governorates into a single electoral district.

2. Adopt the district, rather than the governorate, as an electoral district in each of the governorates of Mount Lebanon, Northern Lebanon, and al-Biqa', provided that the districts of Ba'labakk and al-Hirmil be merged into one electoral district. The same shall apply to al-Biqa' al-Gharbi and Rashayya districts.

3. Establish extra polling centers for voters whose circumstances do not permit them to exercise their voting right in their original electoral districts.

These transitional provisions have been stipulated in Articles 3 and 5 of the draft law.

Even though Article 49 of the law on election of the Chamber of Deputies members stipulates that a voter card must be displayed for taking part in voting, this

stipulation has been suspended and the voter card has been replaced by an identity card once in accordance with Law No. 17/68 of 7 February 1968 and a second time in accordance with Article 72 of this law.

But because many Lebanese have lost their identity cards and because the government was unable during the war period to develop a new identity card, it has been necessary to rely upon the certificate of national status for the general parliamentary elections. This has been stipulated in Article 4 of the draft law.

Finally, because Article 7 of the electoral law sets specific dates for summoning the electoral bodies and spells out their meeting dates;

And because it is impossible to observe these grace periods in the scheduled elections which deviate from the ordinary rules stipulated by the said article;

It has been necessary to give the Council of Ministers the power to summon the electoral bodies at any time and to set the dates for their meetings in the same decree by which the summons is made, provided that the validity of Law No. 1 of 7 December 1989 on extending the terms of the current parliamentary assembly be considered ended immediately upon completion of the election processes.

This has been stipulated in Article 6 of the draft law.

To accomplish the aforementioned objectives, the government has drawn up the attached draft law. It presents the draft law to the Chamber of Deputies, hoping that it will pass it.

Table No. 1: Parliamentary Positions in Electoral Districts

Electoral District	Number of Seats	Sunni	Shi'ite	Druze	Alawite	Maronite	Greek Catholic	Greek Orthodox	Anglican	Armenian Catholic	Armenian Orthodox	Minorities
Beirut City	21	7	2	1		1	1	3	1	1	3	1
Mount Lebanon	35	2	3	5		19	2	3			1	
South Lebanon	13	3	6			2	2					
Al-Nabatiyah	11	1	8	1				1				
Al-Biqa'	22	4	8	1		3	3	2				1
North Lebanon	26	10			2	9		5				
Grand total	128	27	27	8	2	34	8	14	1	1	4	2

Table No. 2: Parliamentary Positions in Electoral Districts

Electoral District	Number of Seats	Sunni	Shi'ite	Druze	Alawite	Maronite	Greek Catholic	Greek Orthodox	Anglican	Armenian Catholic	Armenian Orthodox	Minorities
Beirut City	21	7	2	1		1	1	3	1	1	3	1
Mount Lebanon :												
Jubayl	3		1			2						
Kasrawan	5					5						
Al-Matn	8					4	1	2			1	
B'abda	6		2	1		3						
'Alayh	5			2		2		1				

Table No. 2: Parliamentary Positions in Electoral Districts (Continued)

Electoral District	Number of Seats	Sunni	Shi'ite	Druze	Alawite	Maronite	Greek Catholic	Greek Orthodox	Anglican	Armenian Catholic	Armenian Orthodox	Minorities
Al-Shuf	8	2		2		3	1					
South Lebanon and al-Nabatiyah	24	4	14	1		2	2	1				
Zahlah	7	1	1			1	2	1				1
Ba'labakk and al-Hirmil	9	1	6			1	1					
Al-Biqa' al-Gharbi and Rashayya	9	1	1	1		1		1				
North Lebanon												
Tripoli City	8	5			1	1		1				
Tarabulus (Tripoli)	2	2										
'Akkar	7	3			1	1		2				
Zgharta	3					3						
Al-Kurah	2							2				
Bsharri	2					2						
Al-Batrun	2					2						
Grand Total	128	27	27	8	2	34	8	14	1	1	4	2

Foreign Minister al-Shar' Returns From Egypt

JN1207074192 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0415 GMT 12 Jul 92

[Excerpts] Alexandria—His Excellency President Muhammad Husni Mubarak of Egypt received in Alexandria yesterday morning Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar', who delivered a message from His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad. [passage omitted]

Faruq al-Shar' returned to Damascus yesterday afternoon.

Al-Shar' Hails Plans for Armenian Embassy

JN1507202092 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1815 GMT 15 Jul 92

[Text] Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' received (Armand Vazartian), Armenian assistant foreign minister, this afternoon. The meeting was attended by Raslan 'Allush, acting assistant minister; Dr. Ghassan Raslan, head of the Eastern Europe Department; Ashot Manokian, head of the Consular Department; and Boghos Serajian, head of the Arab Countries Department at the Armenian Foreign Ministry.

During the meeting, they reviewed the tragic situation created by the ongoing fighting in the Nagorno-Karabakh region. For his part, the minister expressed hope that this crisis will be resolved through peaceful means and dialogue.

The talks also focused on the importance of promoting Syrian-Armenian ties in all spheres. In this regard, the Armenian assistant foreign minister informed the minister of his government's decision to open an Armenian embassy in Damascus—a development welcomed by the foreign minister.

King Husayn Arrives in Damascus 16 Jul

JN1607105092 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1015 GMT 16 Jul 92

[Excerpt] His Majesty King Husayn Bin-Talal, the monarch of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, arrived in Damascus at noon today. President Hafiz al-Asad headed those who received him at the airport. [passage omitted]

Rabin Remarks Aimed at U.S. Loan Guarantees

JN1507161692 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1130 GMT 15 Jul 92

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen: The statements being made these days by the new and old Israeli rulers ignore peace and speak about the tasks of the next stage in a language of force. This comes despite all the efforts exerted by the world during the past months to spread the principle of peace in the region and to exclude all ideas that would further escalate the tension, kindle the fires of conflict, and bring closer the eventualities of war.

Rabin's new government, like the Shamir government which became a shadow, announced that setting up the role of the Israeli Army and increasing its armament is a big guarantee for Israel's future. This government also announced that maintaining Israel's military superiority is the first mission of any Israeli Government. Furthermore, Rabin's government attempted to save Israel from the siege under which it found itself in the wake of the peace talks which were paralyzed by the Shamir government. It is doing so by polishing the image of Tel Aviv through empty words, hoping to receive the loan guarantees rejected by the Bush administration last year.

What is strange is that Rabin's government, like the Likud government, has so far not uttered one sentence showing that Israel has agreed on implementing Resolutions 242 and 338 or on exchanging land for peace. In all the ideas announced by this government on the peace process, one can only find incomplete proposals revolving around partial solutions that only harm the peace process and lead the peace talks once again to a whirlpool from which there will be no exit no matter how long it takes.

Hence, those who were overly optimistic in the wake of the Shamir government's defeat in the recent Knesset elections and the ascension of the Israeli Labor Party led by Rabin are today recalculating while scrutinizing the shining words uttered every now and then by this or that Israeli official. The real meaning of these words is adherence to occupation, insistence on settlement, and circumventing UN resolutions.

In the past, we strongly called for not falling into the trap of empty words and for not being deceived by incomplete ideas that do not serve the peace process and that only further complicate the conflict. We believe that the road to peace has become clear to all those who really search for peace, that the requirements of peace are not a mystery in the conflict in the region, and that those who want to adhere to occupation, expand settlement-building, and ignore the Palestinian Arab people's legitimate rights do not seek peace and are only interested in wasting time through these peace talks.

The ongoing peace talks are the right place for the parties that are interested in peace to reach a just and comprehensive solution. The desire to achieve peace cannot be hidden when everybody is convinced that international legitimacy is the arbiter and that peace can only be achieved on the basis of justice.

Afghanistan

Trouble-Shooting Kabul Peace Committee Planned

BK1507121792 Hong Kong AFP in English 1206 GMT 15 Jul 92

[Text] Kabul, July 15 (AFP)—Afghanistan's interim prime minister, 'Abdol Sabor Farid, plans to set up a trouble-shooting peace committee for the Afghan capital, his spokesman said Wednesday.

The 10-member committee will stand by to rush to any part of Kabul where fighting breaks out, spokesman Qaribur Rahman Sa'id said.

Sa'id said its members would include two representatives from the Wahdat, Ittihad and Shiite Hakat Eslami factions, two from the Shoora Nazar, the group which currently oversees security in Kabul, and two figures nominated by the prime minister.

The Shoora Nazar is drawn from the Jamiat-e Eslami faction of interim president Borhanoddin Rabbani and is under the responsibility of Defence Minister Ahmad Shah Mas'ud.

Rival groups have fought gunbattles frequently since the mojahedin took power in Kabul in April. In the latest outbreak of fighting on Tuesday, at least four people were killed and 10 injured.

Sa'id said consultations were under way to form the peace committee as soon as possible.

Meanwhile, the situation was tense in Kabul's southwestern district of Karta-e Se between Shiite Hezb-e Wahdat and Sunni Ettehad-e Eslami factions.

The Wahdat and Ettehad, which are backed by Iran and Saudi Arabia respectively, were involved in fierce fighting early June resulting in many casualties.

Armed Wahdat men were seen checking buses in the Karta-e Se area on Wednesday to prevent entry of alleged troublemakers.

Sources said Wahdat men had had a skirmish with defence ministry forces in the area Tuesday, but no one was injured.

A few tanks and several armoured personnel carriers were stationed in the area, with guns pointed toward a Wahdat stronghold.

The Wahdat, which is not represented in the present cabinet, is demanding a share of power for the Shiite Hazara community, which it claims makes up 25 percent of Afghanistan's population.

Sunni radical factions dismiss the Shiite claim as exaggerated.

Purge of Communists From Government Urged

LD1507163792 (Clandestine) Radio Message of Freedom in Dari to Afghanistan 0900 GMT 15 Jul 92

[Commentary by political commentator]

[Text] It is about three months since the government was apparently seized by the mojahedin; and at national and international level it is assumed that government is in the hands of the mojahedin. In fact, however, the presidential palace and some state buildings are under the control of the mojahedin and the Islamic Society of Afghanistan. To tell the truth, we can clearly say that the authority of the leaders of the Islamic government does not exist beyond the walls of state buildings.

It is for this reason that signs of practical achievement and of the authority of the Islamic government have not been seen over the past months. All important government installations are, as before, under the dominance of the remnants of the previous criminal communist regime, and their government and authority still exist behind the scenes. All security affairs, military headquarters and security posts are run by atheist and criminal individuals of the previous regime, and still ride unashamedly on the back of our faithful and afflicted nation.

For instance, the mojahedin dare not enter and move about in the city of Kabul. Theft, looting, assaults on women, and violations of the people's dignity and prestige go on as in the past. Disorder and chaos increase every day, and at every moment there is the possibility that the city will be wrecked. No one can venture to take a step forward to ensure the security of the city and to conduct state affairs, neither state official nor [words indistinct].

As each day passes, the ordinary people expect that today the situation will be better than yesterday and that officials of the islamic government will do something about ensuring calm and security and the well-being of their afflicted nation. Regrettably, however, today's situation becomes more painful than yesterday's. The 14-year hopes of the people are turning to despair.

With regret, we must say that the security of Kabul city is ensured by those remnants of the previous criminal regime who belonged to the organs of Khad, Sarandoi, and tribal and militia brigades; everyone of them is responsible for the martyring, assaulting, and persecuting scores of our Muslim brothers and sisters, and yet, as in the past, they unashamedly continue their crimes and treason in the organs and security posts of the Islamic government. Murders, assaults on women, and violations of the property and homes of the defenseless and oppressed people of Kabul are committed by these very criminals. Meanwhile, every day hundreds of mojahedin are insulted, humiliated, beaten, and imprisoned in the city of Kabul.

[word indistinct] and arming of the communists, which has now taken the form of a competition, strengthen the danger that those unashamed and atheist communists, who have remained in state bodies in an organized manner, will, God forbid, once again come together to seize power or, at least, cause fighting and disunity among the jehadi formations that have coalesced in the Islamic government, and gradually weaken the prestige and credibility of these formations, which brought about the defeat of the Red Army, the decimation of communism, and the toppling of the Khalq and Parcham before the nation. If a flock of sheep could be guarded by wolves, what is the need for a shepherd? Now, it seems, the Islamic government guards the flock of sheep with wolves. If you do not believe us, see for yourselves the military headquarters and security posts in the city of Kabul to find out who are there.

[words indistinct] that the Islamic government and all jehadi formations should, first of all, purge their sacred ranks of the noxious microbes and, at least, remove them from their ranks, seeing that every one of them is responsible for killing scores of martyrs. The only wish and demand of our Muslim, faithful, and mojahed nation is that communists and their professional criminals should be expelled from state organs in order that security and confidence may emerge and the ground prepared for the prosperity and progress of the country.

Bangladesh

Burmese Rohingya Refugees Take Up Arms

BK1607074892 Hong Kong AFP in English 0735 GMT 16 Jul 92

[By Nadeem Qadir]

[Text] Dhaka, July 16 (AFP)—Bangladesh officials said Thursday some Burmese refugees have taken up arms against the government following clashes with police in border camps in which up to six refugees were reportedly killed. Five Burmese Moslem refugees were killed and 30 people injured in clashes Tuesday in a southeastern Bangladesh camp, the mass circulation DAILY ITTEFAQ newspaper reported Thursday. A sixth victim reportedly died later from his injuries.

Quoting "reliable sources," the newspaper said the bodies of five people killed in Naikonchari camp were still with the refugees. A senior official in Dhaka told AFP he was not aware of any deaths although a reliable source in Cox's Bazar District where the camp is situated confirmed one death.

"The refugees are claiming five deaths, but so far they have refused to hand over the bodies even as an evidence to anybody," the source said.

Police opened fire when the refugees, known as Rohingyas, started pelting them with stones to stop a head count in the camp after officials discovered Tuesday that 800 of the 15,000 refugees were 'missing.' The Rohingyas have fled Burma in their tens of thousands alleging intimidation and violence against them in their homeland. Burma has denied the allegations.

Since an agreement was signed in April between Dhaka and Rangoon for their repatriation an estimated 6,000 refugees have fled the 15 camps along the border to avoid being sent home. They have been seeking additional safety guarantees.

Authorities have now begun fencing in the camps. Paramilitary Bangladesh Rifles along with armed police have been posted to guard Naikonchari camp and security has been stepped up in others, sources at the camps said.

Government sources told AFP that some refugees had taken up arms. One official, who asked not to be named, said: "The law and order situation is very serious in the camps. We should have taken steps much earlier to thwart such a situation... but we never anticipated it."

He alleged that some refugees opened fire on police and camp officials during the disturbances Tuesday.

One informed source said insurgent groups like the Rohingya Solidarity Organisation (RSO) and another armed group Arakan Rohingya Islamic Front were supplying weapons or had infiltrated the camps to stop repatriation. An RSO spokesman rejected the allegation.

The U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees has refused to take part in the repatriation unless its personnel are allowed to monitor the process in Burma, a request rejected by Rangoon's military regime. Fresh border talks had been scheduled for Thursday but they were postponed by Burma which said the 'relevant officials' were not available. The last formal talks on repatriating the refugees were held on June 8.

Bangladesh additional foreign secretary Mammud Ali said it was hoped the talks would be held within a week.

Prime Minister To Visit Bahrain, Pakistan

BK1407161692 Dhaka Radio Bangladesh Network in English 1530 GMT 14 Jul 92

[Text] Prime Minister Khaleda Zia will pay a three-day official visit to Pakistan from the 9th of next month at the invitation of Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif. This was stated in Dhaka today by a spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. It is a goodwill visit to generate positive impulse and impetus not only to solve bilateral problems, but also to find new and innovative avenues, especially in the socioeconomic fields to strengthen relations. During the visit, both sides will exchange views on international, regional, and bilateral issues. The visit is also expected to enable Bangladesh and Pakistan to exchange views on the role of SAARC [South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation], (?its purpose and) objectives.

Meanwhile, Foreign Minister Mustafizur Rahman, who returned to Dhaka today from Islamabad at the end of his four-day visit to Pakistan, has briefed newsmen in the capital. He said Prime Minister Khaleda Zia will go to Islamabad from Bahrain after a two-day visit to that country. Mr. Mustafizur Rahman said repatriation of the stranded Pakistanis and division of assets will also figure prominently during the talks. The foreign minister said that during her stay in Manama, the capital of Bahrain, Begum Zia will discuss bilateral matters, problems facing the Islamic ummah [community], trade, export of manpower, and joint venture industries.

India

Russia To Continue Rocket Technology Cooperation

BK1507145492 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1230 GMT 15 Jul 92

[Text] Russia has reassured India of its continued cooperation on the cryogenic engine technology. Disclosing this in the Lok Sabha today, the minister of state for science and technology [title as heard], Mr. P. Kumaramangalam, said that agreement with Russia in this regard aims at accelerating the transfer of the complex technology.

Pakistan Seen Sponsoring Terrorism Against Delhi

BK1607032192 Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English 5 Jul 92 p 8

[By Aji S. Gopal: "The Pakistani Game Plan"]

[Text] A recent report of the United States Defence Intelligence Agency claims that there are "several thousand mercenaries" in Pakistan belonging to nearly 30 different Muslim countries. Reporting on the same issue, the American media says that these mercenaries are more than 10,000 in number.

These mercenaries came to Pakistan with the ostensible objective of helping fundamentalist elements in the ranks of the Afghan mojahedin to establish an Islamic set-up in Kabul. In addition, according to Western reports, a large number of Arab scholars and religious personalities also arrived in Peshawar and other parts of Pakistan to render moral and political backing to the Afghan mojahedin.

Although Islamabad has not reacted officially to these and other such reports, some Pakistan newspapers have published officially-inspired reports that it was American pressure which led to an early settlement of the Afghan problem. The implication was Islamabad's withdrawal of support to the radical and fundamentalist Hekmatyar faction of the Afghan mojahidin helped in a speedy solution to the problem in Afghanistan.

Moreover, the Pakistani media disclosed that Islamabad has now decided to prevent Arabs from entering the country fearing that they would join the Afghan mojahedin. One paper, however, said the Pakistani authorities know that many Arabs have entered Pakistan through visas issued in Dhaka "to avoid a possible restriction from their own governments".

The Pakistanis have shown an eagerness to rebuild ties with Washington so that American aid can be resumed to the country. In order to win over the US, Islamabad has gone so fas as to hint at the possibility of recognising Israel.

Pakistan is perturbed over reports in the Western media that some countries, led by the US, have been examining the possibility of declaring Pakistan a terrorist state if it does not stop helping the Afghan, Kashmiri and Arab terrorists. Once Pakistan is declared a terrorist state it would be treated at par with countries like Syria, Iran, Libya, Iraq and North Korea, which would pose grave dangers to the inflow of aid to the country from Europe and America.

In April this year, an American delegation, led by Peter Burley, a counter-terrorism expert, visited Pakistan to investigate widespread allegations that Islamabad was backing certain terrorist movements. According to Pakistani media reports, besides Islamabad, Burley also visited Karachi, Peshawar "Azad" Kashmir in connection with his mission. Before he left the country Burley warned that Pakistan would be declared a terrorist state if it did not stop helping the Afghan, Kashmiri and Arab terrorists.

In May, the US ambassador to Pakistan, Nicholas Platt, called on Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif to deliver a letter from Secretary of State James Baker in which the US threatened to declare Pakistan a terrorist state unless it ceases to support the terrorists in Kashmir and Punjab.

In June, the Bush administration and Congress agreed that Pakistan should be transformed into a democratic secular state based on the pillars of reform, secularism, pluralism.

The US House of Representatives Foreign Affairs committee, chaired by Congressman Dante Fascell, issued this statement on US policy toward Pakistan: "Congress recognises that an independent, secular and democratic Pakistan with continued friendly ties with the US is in the interest of both nations. The US provides assistance to Pakistan to help the people and the government of Pakistan establish secular democratic institutions and to ensure respect for fundamental human rights, including freedom of expression, freedom of association and conscience."

It is now 11 years since Pakistan assumed the role of a state-sponsor of terrorism against India, despite several United Nations and US pronouncements on the subject. The problem began with the hijacking of an Indian Airlines aircraft by a group of the Dal Khalsa, led by Gajinder Singh, in 1981. Gajinder Singh is still very

active. From the Central Jail in Kot Lakhpat, Lahore, he has been directing the activities of the Dal Khalsa in different countries.

Prominent terrorists like Harminder Singh and Ravinder Singh, who were involved in the hijacking of another Indian Airlines aircraft to Lahore in July 1984, have recently been allowed by Pakistan to engage lawyers at government expense.

It has since become clear that Pakistan's intelligence agencies, notably the Inter Services Intelligence (ISI), have been playing a prominent role in similar hijackings. One of the most sensational incidents was the hijacking of a Singapore Airlines Airbus, which was on its way from Kuala Lumpur to Singapore, on March 26, 1991. Four Pakistani hijackers were gunned down by commandos. It was widely reported that the hijacking was masterminded by the ISI.

After Punjab it was Kashmir. It is three years since the present phase of terrorism erupted in the valley with the kidnapping of the then home minister Mufti Mohammad Sayeed's daughter in 1989. This was followed by her subsequent release in return for the release of some extremists.

Since then, Pakistanis, among them "retired" army officers and others have drawn lessons for the evolution of the extremists" activities. For example, they have agreed that it was wrong in the past to project the Kashmir issue as a territorial dispute between India and Pakistan. The focus, henceforth, should be on the right of self-determination of the Kashmiris.

With world opinion veering strongly against state-sponsored terrorism, the Pakistanis have decided that militant activities should be sustained at a steady, not high, level, and that "spectacular bangs" should be avoided since they could prove counter-productive turning international opinion against Pakistan.

The Pakistani media has also taken note of the US strategy to combat state-sponsored terrorism, which is contained in Washington's policy delclarations from 1972 (when terrorists struck at the Munich Olympics) up to 1988. The US has actively supported the "strategy of active defence", which has meant the readiness to use military force. In India, Bharatiya Janata Party has expressed its open support for such a strategy and has urged the government to launch preemptive strikes on training camps in Pakistan which are hosting militants from Punjab.

Mobilizing World Opinion Succeeds

BK1607081092 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0730 GMT 16 Jul 92

[Text] The minister of state for external affairs, Mr. Eduardo Faleiro, says India has been successful in mobilizing world opinion against Pakistan for its support to terrorist activities in the country. The minister told the Rajya Sabha during question hour that there is a qualitative improvement in the perception of the United States against Pakistan for its involvement to encourage subversive activities in India. The minister said Washington made it clear that Simla Agreement is the only solution to the Kashmir issue.

Warning Issued on China's Spratlys Policy

BK1607015792 Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English 7 Jul 92 p 7

[Editorial: "An Ominous Oil Hunt"]

[Text] Will the intensified search for oil and natural gas in the South China Sea turn out to be a source of serious international tension? The danger cannot be ruled out, says Indonesia though it is not itself a party to the dispute over the ownership of the Spratly and Parcel groups of islands in the sea believed to contain vast reserves of oil and gas. It is the potential threat to peace posed by this expectation of a bonanza and in particular by the lead taken by China in exploring the Spratlys that seem to have perturbed Jakarta. This was highlighted by it by organising an informal meeting of representatives of countries in the region including China last week and by seeking an agreement disavowing resort to force while looking for oil. In his opening speech, the Indonesian Foreign Minister, Mr Ali Alatas, called for restraint among the claimants to the two archipelagoes. Inevitably, the sense of foreboding in other countries directly involved in the dispute over the ownership of the islands is far more pronounced. General Mohammad Ali Alwi, the deputy chief of the Malaysian army, has said that with China busy achieving naval dominance, "fear and concern among the smaller littoral states in the South China Sea are justifiably grave." Vietnam, Taiwan, and the Philippines, which have made overlapping claims to islands in the sea, have also been perturbed by the Chinese action.

It is the strong protest by Vietnam which has truly darkened the horizon in the South China Sea. The Vietnamese first received a rude jolt when China enacted a new law annexing the Spratly and Paracel groups last February. Three months later they realised that this was not just a formal reiteration of a known Chinese claim when the government in Beijing signed a contract with Creston Energy Corporation of Denver, US, for exploration of a part of the sea covering 9,700 sq. miles which has also been claimed by Vietnam. Hanoi even says that the area includes the Vietnamese continental shelf. The Vietnamese feeling of being let down by China arises especially from an apparent bilateral understanding earlier on joint exploration pending a resolution of the dispute over sovereignty. China's unilateral action in stepping up the oil hunt was seen as a sinister move all the more after the Creston chairman announced that the Chinese have given an assurance of full naval protection for the exploration teams and equipment. And Vice-Admiral Zhang Lian Zhang of the Chinese navy was quoted in April as having said that as commerical

exploitation of the sea continued "the fight for ocean rights will be more fierce". The Chinese perspective cannot but be noted with special concern in the East Asian Capitals which have hitherto tended to assume that an era of uninterrupted economic upswing in peaceful conditions has opened out for them as a sequel to the growing US-Russian identity of interests. Perhaps Mr Ali Alatas was trying to sound a note of caution against complacency when he urged that the region be spared "another debilitating conflict after Cambodia".

Sharma Leads in Early Presidential Count

BK1607084392 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0830 GMT 16 Jul 92

[Text] Dr. Shankar Dayal Sharma, the Congress-I candidate, is leading by about 28,000 votes at the end of the first round of counting. Independent candidate Kaka Joginder Singh got 174 votes, while the noted lawyer Mr. Ram Jethmalani, who withdrew from the contest, secured 283 votes. Dr. Sharma polled 80,055 votes as against 52,858 by the National Front-BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] supported candidate, Professor G.G. Swell.

In the first round, votes from the states of Arunachal Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Goa, and Gujarat have been counted. Counting for the second round from the state of Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, and Manipur is now in progress. In all, there would be four rounds of counting to cover the entire polling. Counting of votes have been taken up in statewise in the alphabetical order and the votes cast in parliament will be taken up in the last round. The results are expected by this evening.

More Reportage on Disputed Ayodhya Shrine Site

Attempts To Defuse Crisis Viewed

BK1607095692 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0245 GMT 16 Jul 92

[Commentary by Nirja Chaudhary of the INDIAN EXPRESS]

[Text] The Allahabad High Court's order staying the ongoing construction in the vicinity of the disputed Ram Janmabhoomi-Babri Masjid [temple-mosque] complex has come as a breather for the union government. In two other related but separate developments, the Supreme Court has sought a detailed affidavit from the UP [Uttar Pradesh] government for a complete and truthful picture of the nature of the construction going on in Ayodhya. The central team of officials has also indicted the state government on various counts.

The court's order gives some breathing space to the center. However, much depends on the stand the BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] decides to take in the coming days. If it decides to abide by the court's order, it could come into conflict with the Vishwa Hindu Parishad [VHP—World Hindu Council] which has declared its intention to go ahead with the temple construction on the disputed site. If it decides to ignore the court's verdict, it could invite the charge of contempt of court and failure to protect the rule of law. In this context, it is significant that the prime minister is meeting VHP leaders in New Delhi today in a bid to resolve the Ayodhya tangle.

The Congress-I has made it clear that it is for the construction of a temple in Ayodhya, but not at the cost of the Babri Masjid. But the ruling party has not yet spelt out its stand on the site of the temple it has in mind or how it is to be built without touching the mosque. It is obvious that the center would prefer the courts to provide a way out. The prime minister obviously wants to avoid any step as far as possible, which would make the center a party to the dispute. Confrontation on the Ayodhya issue, which cost Mr. V.P. Singh his government, can have far-reaching consequences for the communal situation in the country and for the stability of the near-majority Congress-I government in Delhi. It is for this and other reasons that Mr. Rao's politics of the last year have been to defuse a hitherto polarized situation in the country.

Court Forbids Construction

BK1507162492 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1530 GMT 15 Jul 92

[Text] The Lucknow bench of the Allahabad High Court has restrained the opposite parties from undertaking any construction activity at the disputed [temple-mosque] site in Ayodhya. The special full bench comprising Justice Mr. S.C. Mathur, Justice Mr. Brijesh Kumar, and Justice Mr. S.H.A. Reza today also ordered the court's prior permission should be taken if any of the parties wanted to carry out any construction work. The orders were passed on the application moved by Mohammad Hassan praying for an interim direction and action on the matter on Monday last [13 July]. The advocate general of the state government requested the court for permission for filing counter-affidavit, which was granted.

The Supreme Court today directed the Uttar Pradesh government to file tomorrow a detailed affidavit about the alleged construction work in progress at the disputed Ram Janambhoomi-Babri Masjid [temple-mosque] complex in Ayodhya. The direction was issued by division bench comprising Mr. Justice M.N. Venkatchelliah and Mr. Justice J.N. Ray during the resumed hearing on three petitions seeking initiation of contempt proceedings against the state government, the chief minister and the Vishwa Hindu Parishad [VHP, World Hindu Council] for alleged violation of court orders. The judges during the 90-minute hearing made it clear that if the present structure is being put up anywhere within the land acquired by the state government, it would be

considered the violation of the Apex Court order of November last, which specifically prohibited such structures.

The home minister, Mr. S.B. Chavan, told the Rajya Sabha during question hour that the center will ensure that the Uttar Pradesh government does not violate the orders of the Supreme Court on the disputed Ram Janambhoomi-Babri Masjid issue. In reply to a supplementary, Mr. Chavan said that if the situation arises where the Uttar Pradesh government is found not following the Supreme Court verdict, Article 356 will have to be applied.

The official team which visited Ayodhya has observed that the platform being constructed on the acquired land cannot be called a temporary structure. In its report the team, however, felt that only the court can take a final view as to whether the construction violates the interim orders against any permanent structure there. A summary of the report was tabled in both houses of parliament today. The report said there is no information whether the state government has initiated any action against the party undertaking the construction of the platform. It is to be considered whether the acquired land of 2.77 acres has been transferred or alienated in violation of the interim order passed by the high court in October 1991. The report observed that large-scale demolition, digging and leveling work on the acquired land has substantially altered the nature of the area, included within the boundary wall. This has also affected the drainage in the area. The team in its report said the state government has not clarified the name of the agency doing the work, nor spelt out under whose authority the construction is being executed. Recalling that the land was acquired for development of tourism and providing amenities to pilgrims, the central team said the purpose of constructing the platform has not been made clear. The report expressed the view that the boundary wall built by the state government is not in conformity with the alignment, design and other security features recommended by the central experts. The report said it is significant that the design indicates that it is an ornamental wall normally constructed for the temple.

All India Radio correspondent reports from Ayodhya that security arrangements have been further tightened in and around the Ram Janambhoomi-Babri Masjid complex. Three more companies of PAC [Provincial Armed Constabulary] have been deployed, besides another 175 policemen on duty for the protection of the disputed structure. Six sets of close-circuit TV's have been installed to regulate the control.

Meanwhile, the construction work at the shilanyas [foundation stone for temple] site continued today. Talking to newsmen in Ayodhya, the VHP general secretary, Mr Ashok Singhal, claimed that the construction work is being done on the land possessed by the Ram Janambhoomi [temple] trust. He alleged that no effort was made by the central government to solve the problem during the last one year.

Mosque Committee Hails Court Order

BK1607075692 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0730 GMT 16 Jul 92

[Text] The Babri Masjid Movement Coordination Committee has welcomed the interim order of the Allahabad high court stalling the ongoing construction work at the disputesd site in Ayodhya. It appealed to the Uttar Pradesh government not to violate the order. It has also called upon the central government to dismiss the state government if it violates the order of the court.

Hindu Council Vows More Building

BK1607092392 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0830 GMT 16 Jul 92

[Text] The home minister, Mr. S.B. Chavan, told the Rajya Sabha today that the center is awaiting reports of the U.P. [Uttar Pradesh] government about the implementation of the court orders delivered yesterday regarding the Ram Janambhoomi-Babri Masjid [temple-mosque] issue in Ayodhya. He stated this when some non-BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] agitated members wanted to know what action the center is taking to ensure the implementation of the court orders by the state government. Mr. Chavan said according to reports the State Government Council has stated in the Supreme Court that the construction work is being done by the U.P. government. He said, however, the exact position will be known after the affidavit by the U.P. government is filed in the Supreme Court today. Earlier, raising the issue during zero hour, Mr. S.S. Aluwalia, Congress-I and some other non-BJP members wanted to know whether the U.P. government is abiding by the court orders.

The Vishwa Hindu Parishad [VHP—World Hindu Council] has said that it will not stop construction work at the Ram Janambhoomi-Babri Masjid complex at Ayodhya. The VHP joint general secretary, Acharya Giriraj Kishore, told our correspondent in New Delhi today, that a decision to this effect has been taken when the work was started at the site in the first week of this month. He said a four-member VHP delegation, including its president, will meet the prime minister tonight to discuss the issue.

Meanwhile, the Babri Masjid Movement Coordination Committee and the All India Babri Masjid Action Committee have decided to form a joint panel to evolve a combined strategy on the issue.

Prime Minister To Meet Activists

BK1607030692 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0245 GMT 16 Jul 92

[Text] According to PTI, the prime minister will hold a discussion with the Vishwa Hindu Parishad [VHP] leaders in New Delhi today on the Ayodhya temple issue. The Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Mr. Kalyan Singh says that the state government has not violated any court

order relating to the Ayodhya issue. He said a statement to this effect in Lakhtar yesterday in which he referred to the union home minister's statement in parliament recently.

No-Confidence Debate Resumes in Lok Sabha

BK1607091692 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0830 GMT 16 Jul 92

[Text] The Lok Sabha has resumed discussions on the no-confidence motion against the Narasimha Rao government.

Participating in the debate, the minister of state for steel, Mr. Santosh Mohan Dev, asserted that the government will not deviate from its policy of evolving a consensus among all political parties on important national issues. He had repeated digs at the opposition and said both the Left and the Right parties are criticizing the economic liberalization program without any conviction.

Mr. Ved said that while the CPI-M [Communist Party of India-Marxist] is opposed to taking loans from the World Bank, its government in West Bengal is depending on loans from a private financial firm in the state. He said the only alternative to IMF assistance is either heavy taxation or a halt to the very development process in the country.

Expressing concern over the developing situation in Ayodhya, the minister hoped that the center will soon take appropriate measures to defuse tension there.

Kashmir Situation Said To Be Deteriorating

BK1607044992 Delhi THE HINDUSTAN TIMES in English 8 Jul 92 p 7

[Text] A sudden spurt in violence has been witnessed in Kashmir for the past one week. Militants have intensified their attacks on the positions and pickets of the paramilitary force in the crowded areas, particularly capital city of Srinagar. The security forces have often reacted in panic and used excess force. The net result is more violence, more killings and worsening of the situation on the ground.

Whatever be the interpretation for this phenomenon, which is endemic in the current situation in Kashmir, it does reflect that the things have not turned as rosy as some Central leaders would like the country to believe. The sole incident of bursting a tyre near historical Lal Chowk which provoked firing from the security personnel resulting in the death of six persons and injuries to 14 others, was a clear demonstration of this fact. This was a rerun of Khanyar and Chota Bazar incidents of last year.

Militants have taken advantage of the situation and the growing alienation of the people. They have restarted their attacks on the security personnel in crowded places. One such incident was on July 6 afternoon when they hurled grenade on a picket of security forces in Khanyar area. The explosion left two security personnel wounded but the retaliatory fire left five wounded, two of whom succumbed to their injuries later.

For the past one week residents of Srinagar city are witnessing exchange of fire in the evening hours. The city is scared as the exchange of fire is often followed by dreadful crackdown.

The vicious cycle is constantly moving and the alienation of the people is attaining new heights which partly obscures the successes of the security forces against militants, enforcing surrenders or for that matter recovering huge quantities of arms and ammunition. This is a worrying factor for the authorities interested in improvement of the situation.

Battle hardened police officers feel that this is one of those "essential parts of the situation dotted with ups and downs with the change of the weathers and the moods in the Valley". They are "confident" of controlling these aberrations. What is particularly disturbing them is that the influx from across has not been prevented fully. Better armed and trained militants are sneaking into the Valley despite tight vigil along the Line of Actual Control (LAC).

"Pakistan is keen on pushing them to this side and the militants are unwilling to become the cannon fodder, remarked a police officer. The new strategy seems to be to abandon the old routes along the LAC and choose new ones. Chingus route that was abandoned after 1965 Indo-Pakistan conflict, has been again brought into use. "This is a serious development", till now, the entire concentration of the army was on Poonch, Kupwara and Baramullah sectors but Chingus route has brought into open the plan of the militants to involve Rajouri as well. Recurring bomb blasts in Rajouri districts including one in the Chingus police station housed in a historical fort of the Mughal era are indicative of this developing situation.

Ironically the situation has started worsening at a time when the Central Government is toying with the idea of holding Assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir. But more than anybody else the vested interests on both sides are responsible for the recent reverses and they are able to take advantage of these incidents essentially because of the failure of New Delhi to demonstrate its determination in pursuing one particular policy.

Total Army Pullout From Punjab Seen by End Aug

BK1607043792 Delhi THE HINDUSTAN TIMES in English 7 Jul 92 p 10

[Text] The army has begun pulling out of the troubled State of Punjab. According to top Army and police sources, a detailed pull out plan has come into effect and by the end of August, all the troops would have returned to the barracks.

A top-level meeting of the Army commanders, police and other paramilitary outfits held on June 30 put an end to the speculation that the Army might stay put. Punjab Chief Minister Beant Singh had been insisting and making public pronouncements that Army would stay in Punjab as long as there was militancy in the State. He had even met Defence Minister Sharad Pawar and Home Minister S. B. Chavan to plead his case.

The Army had been around for too long in Punjab. The training of Army personnel and the maintenance of equipment were being neglected. Annual leave was not being granted to a large number of Armymen. While the police and the local political bosses were keen on retaining the army in the present form and number, the Army commanders insisted on moving out. "We have the defence of the country as our top priority. Exposures here is not good, though we feel this problem of terrorism needs [sentence as published]. The Army, but not for a long period," a senior Army commander commented. [sentence as published]

According to details worked out, battalion commanders would be in touch in all the five ranges of the police. Junior officers would be there to coordinate with the district police chiefs.

Iran

Velayati Holds Talks With Officials in Germany

Meets Foreign Minister Kinkel

LD1507182292 Tehran IRNA in English 0642 GMT 15 Jul 92

[Text] Bonn, July 15, IRNA—First round of talks between Iran's Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati and his German counterpart Klaus Kinkel was held here last night. Velayati and his delegation arrived here on a three-day official visit earlier on Tuesday.

Tehran-Bonn relations, the prospects for bilateral ties and the international developments were discussed by the two foreign ministers.

Kinkel called Velayati's visit a "positive" sign in the two countries' "favourable" ties and expressed hope that bilateral relations will further upgrade in the future.

The German minister regretted last March's attack on the Iranian embassy and missions in Germany by terrorists of the Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization (MKO), and assured that the Bonn Government will never allow repetition of such incidents. He added that the Bonn Government will recompensate for the losses inflicted on the Iranian properties.

Kinkel further thanked the Islamic republic for its humanitarian efforts in tracing out the two German citizens who went missing in Lebanon. He also said that Germany attaches great importance to its relations with Iran and expressed hope that the traditionally good ties between Tehran and Bonn will further expand.

Velayati invited Kinkel to visit Iran which the latter accepted. The Iranian minister is expected to hold talks with German Chancellor Helmut Kohl and other ranking officials later today.

Meets Ex-Foreign Minister Genscher

LD1507104592 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 15 Jul 92

[Text] Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the former German foreign minister and a Bundestag representative, met Mr. Velayati, the foreign affairs minister, at Mr. Velayati's residence in Bonn this morning. Our colleague reports from Bonn.

[Unidentified correspondent] Important international issues and world developments, especially the situation in Eastern Europe and the newly independent republics following the demise of the former Soviet Union, were discussed and assessed at that meeting.

Genscher stressed the importance of ties between Germany and the Islamic Republic of Iran and submitted a report about the developments in Europe, German unification and the problems of Eastern Europe. Speaking about Bosnia-Hercegovina, he referred to the situation in that region as sensitive.

Our country's foreign minister referred to the relations between Iran and Germany as important and mentioned the developments in the newly independent republics of the former Soviet Union. Pointing out the desperate situation of the Muslims in Bosnia-Hercegovina, he remarked about the Islamic Republic of Iran's humanitarian assistance. He spoke further about the international community's measures regarding the crisis in Bosnia-Hercegovina and referred to those measures as weak and insufficient. Velayati also called for serious steps by the international community suitable to the depth of the crisis in Bosnia-Hercegovina.

Describes Talks as 'Positive'

NC1607063992 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0330 GMT 16 Jul 92

[Text] Foreign Minister Velayati is in Germany for talks with officials there. In a telephone conversation with us last night, the foreign minister discussed the outcome of his meetings in Germany. He described the talks as positive, saying:

[Begin Velayati recording] Greetings to the dear listeners of the Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran [VIRI]. In general, these meetings were marked by a positive spirit of cooperation in view of the decision by the leaders of the two countries to expand bilateral relations and were held in a friendly and constructive atmosphere. We

achieved positive results in bilateral relations and in the political and economic fields.

One of the major topics of discussion was creating balance in bilateral trade and economic cooperation. A limited understanding was reached that the current situation should be adjusted.

We also discussed cooperation in the industrial field and in transferring technology; increased German oil and agricultural purchases from Iran; increased German participation in Iranian reconstruction; and investment in joint projects. It was agreed that at the end of the current Christian month, a delegation from Iran will visit Germany to discuss transferring technology with German officials. It was also decided to hold a meeting of experts of the joint committee to be formed in Germany soon.

On the whole, I can assure VIRI's dear listeners that after a relative decline in bilateral relations during recent months, we are now witnessing a strengthening in relations. [end recording]

The foreign minister also spoke about Iran's efforts to influence the European countries in their approach to the Serbian attacks on Bosnia-Hercegovina's Muslims, adding:

[Begin recording] In our discussions with Helmut Kohl, he said that after his talks with President Hashemi-Rafsanjani, he adopted a very decisive position during the recent Helsinki conference favoring the people of Bosnia-Hercegovina and against the savage Serbian attacks. He added that he owed this position to advice he received from the Iranian president in a recent telephone conversation. Both Iran and Germany place emphasis on supporting the people of Bosnia-Hercegovina and have extended considerable assistance, both on the international scene and in bilateral relations.

We also discussed the outcome of the G-7 summit in Munich. The German officials explained the agenda and objectives of this summit. [end recording]

Remarks on Bosnian 'Genocide'

LD1607085292 Tehran IRNA in English 0732 GMT 16 Jul 92

[Text] Bonn, July 16, IRNA—Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati termed as "genocide" the killing of Muslims in Bosnia-Hercegovina and regretted that none of the international bodies have yet taken an "effective" step to stop the Serbian invaders from committing more crimes.

In his press conference in the German capital, Velayati, who is currently here on a three-day official visit, outlined other issues discussed during meetings with his hosts.

Among topics discussed with German officials, he said, was the need to find a solution for the Tehran-Bonn dispute regarding completion of the 'Bushehr' atomic power plant (1215 kms southwest of Tehran), industrial cooperation, transfer of German technology to Iran and increasing Iran's oil and agricultural exports to Germany.

On the human rights issue, Velayati said the rights of each and every individual in Iran is determined according to the Islamic criteria.

He added that a seminar on human rights, similar to the one which was held in Tehran last year is to be held in Hamburg next September.

The divine laws of Islam attach more importance to human rights than the superficial measures which are called for by the western man-made charters.

Referring to German Chancellor Helmut Kohl's planned trip to Tehran, the Iranian foreign minister expressed hope that the visit will take place soon. However, no specific date has yet been fixed, he added.

While in Bonn, Velayati held two rounds of talks with his German counterpart Klaus Kinkel and met with Chancellor Helmut Kohl and Vice-Chancellor and Minister of Economy Jurgen Moellemann.

Deputy Foreign Minister, German Envoy Meet

LD1507183192 Tehran IRNA in English 1103 GMT 15 Jul 92

[Text] Tehran, July 15, IRNA—Human rights issues and major international problems were discussed in a meeting here last night between German Foreign Ministry Director General for International Affairs Wolf D. Schilling and Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister for International Affairs Manuchehr Mottaki.

Praising Iran for its human rights efforts, Schilling said Bonn shares the view with Iran that issues relating to human rights should not be politicized.

He said that holding of periodical seminars on the issue in Tehran and Hamburg with participation of competent German and Iranian authorities is a fundamental step in this direction.

Mottaki replied that Iran considers as an Islamic and international duty the efforts to exalt the principles of human rights, and is strongly against the selective and dual approach of Western countries towards the issue.

He denounced the silence of those countries which style themselves as torch bearers of human rights towards the human rights abuse in former communist countries and by the Western-dependent states.

Mottaki expressed hope that the unrealistic approach of Western countries towards Iran at the last session of the human rights commission will be revised.

The two sides also described as "positive" the existing Tehran-Bonn relations and called for exchange of views in international cooperation.

Envoy in Amman Says Jordan Ties Progressing

JN1307112992 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic
13 Jul 92 pp 1, 27

[Report by Jumanah Halasah]

[Text] Hoseyn Gholam Reza Naraqiyan, charge d'affaires at the Iranian Embassy in Amman, hailed Jordanian-Iranian relations and said they are continuously progressing. He said there are common characteristics that bind the Iranian and Jordanian peoples.

In an exclusive statement to AL-RA'Y, Naraqiyan said that Iranian-Iraqi relations are on their way toward improvement and that the problem of the Iraqi airplanes detained in Iran is not an Iranian problem, because it is related to the UN resolutions. The problem of the Iraqi and Iranian prisoners will be solved for good within the next few weeks, he added.

The Iranian charge d'affaires in Amman noted that it is important that security in the Gulf be the duty of the countries of the region and not foreign states.

Naraqiyan denounced the new world order, which he said seeks to impose America's power on the weak and poor. He stated that it is possible to set up a new Islamic order to counter the new world order before the latter settles down. He called for relations between Iran and the Arab world on the one hand and the rest of the Islamic world on the other.

He said an Islamic administration supervising the holy places is an old idea that could be discussed.

Concluding, he said that the Islamic republics need assistance after the communist system has been put in the museum.

Swiss Diplomat Says Relations Improving

NC1007111892 Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English
1 Jul 92 pp 1, 15

[Text] Tehran—A top Swiss diplomat in Iran believes that "after a short recess, bilateral relations between Bern and Tehran are again on the road of healthy improvement."

Swiss Ambassador to Iran Anton Greber in an interview with the TEHRAN TIMES said that Irano-Swiss relations are not only improving but also are intensifying on healthy lines.

Greber was the guest at the lunch hosted by TEHRAN TIMES Managing Director M. Soltanifar at the daily's offices. Swiss Embassy First Secretary Walter Haffner was also with the ambassador.

TEHRAN TIMES Editor-in-Chief M. Firozi was also at the lunch and exchanged views with the Swiss diplomats on the Irano-Swiss relations.

Greber believes that the recent visit of Iranian Foreign Minister Dr. 'Ali Akbar Velayati to Switzerland was useful "to patch up many hurdles in the way of smooth flow of bilateral relations between the two countries."

He said that Dr. Velayati met with Swiss Secretary of State Kellen Berger and both sides declared the intention to improve reciprocal relations.

Without going into details Gerber said that "both sides presented their stances on the hurdles in the way."

Observers here believe that the two sides might have discussed the monafeqin [hypocrites—Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization] attack of the Iranian Embassy in Bern and possibly some other issues.

Greber said, "I'm really sorry for the attack on the Iranian Embassy in Bern in April last and prompt action was taken by the security forces in Switzerland."

He said that rioters were arrested and they are being tried by the judicial authorities in Switzerland.

The ambassador said that his country has a free society but it does not mean that the security of the diplomats in one way or the other may be jeopardized by the law breakers.

He said that the security authorities are responsible for the safety and security of foreign diplomats who arrive there as Switzerland houses a number of international organizations and agencies.

Greber believes that if the security forces are informed for the visits of foreign diplomats well ahead, then their job would become easier.

"Any way, the violators who attacked the Iranian Embassy in Bern will be punished according to the existing law in our country," Greber insisted.

On Irano-Swiss economic and commercial relations the ambassador said they are improving steadily. He said that his country is supplying Iran with high technology which is useful for the reconstruction plan of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

First Secretary of the Swiss Embassy Haffner said that his country supplies Iran with machinery, machine tools, chemicals, pharmaceuticals, railway equipments including wagons, engineering and hydroelectrical power plants.

Haffner said that his country imports from Iran various goods such as pistachios, carpets, caviar and also oil from the open market at Rotterdam, in the Netherlands.

Giving the Swiss export figures to Iran Haffner said that the figure of 260.9 million Swiss francs in 1989 had risen to 451 million francs in 1991.

Switzerland exported goods to Iran worth 432.4 million francs in 1990, he said.

Haffner said that 50 percent of the total exports of Switzerland comprises machinery, machine tools and electrical goods, 25 percent of chemicals and pharmaceutical while the other 25 percent belonged to various other goods.

He said that the import from Iran recorded at 73.5 million francs in 1989, 67.5 million francs in 1990 and 63.1 million francs in 1991.

U.S. Warned To Heed Lesson of Boudiaf Murder

NC1307191792 Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 30 Jun 92 pp 1, 15

[Editorial: "The First Blow"]

[Text] In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful. The United States has just reaped the fruits of its new plan to eliminate opponents of its policies. In a serious and courageous step, Algerian Muslim revolutionaries targeted the puppet president of the coupist government and killed him with their fiery bullets.

This was an effective preemptive measure by the Muslim revolutionaries, as a result of which—instead of the leaders of the peaceful Muslim movement in Algeria being dragged into court for their efforts to attain legitimate Muslim rights—the puppet president of the coupist government, "Boudiaf," was probably sentenced in absentia and his punishment meted out to him. The sentence was executed in full public view before his astonished guards.

Whoever was responsible, even if he accepts responsibility or prefers to delegate the task of identifying those responsible to the coupist government, will not change the issue. Any Algerian could have been responsible for this action. Any one of the millions of those who freely voted for the future composition of the Algerian parliament, but whose free will was trampled by the coupists and "Boudiaf" himself, can be considered to have committed this act. It is a nation's natural right to take revenge on those who disrupt things and trample roughshod over the people's will. The last word on the Algerian elections and the cunning approach of the defeated faction was voiced, and it was proved that there was no recourse, just an angry and violent approach to the coupists and their pawns.

With their actions—arrests, torture, repression, and, ultimately, impeaching and executing Muslim revolutionaries—the coupist government has shown that it understands only the language of force and that killing Boudiaf marks the beginning of a "similar logic" by the Algerian people to drive home their wishes to the coupists.

Adopting a treacherous path, the United States and the West have made a serious and intentional blunder in their approach to the Islamic movement of the Algerian people. Washington and its other Western appendages motivated the antireligious faction in the Algerian Government and Armed Forces to stage a coup d'etat against the people and the parliament that had not even been convened. Then they applauded the coupists.

The Algerian nation is today witnessing the preliminaries for the dismissal of the leaders of the FIS [Islamic Salvation Front], while unknown Muslim activists are being subjected to the severest torture and contempt in the coupist government's medieval dungeons, where they are being murdered. The coupists are even using military bases to house the masses of arrested people whose only crime is their efforts for the salvation of Algeria.

The way in which Boudiaf was killed is reminiscent of the killing of "Al-Sadat" for his crime of treason against the Arab cause and especially against the people of Egypt. Nowadays, the Cairo regime also adopted a repressive policy in hunting down the Muslim revolutionaries. The more it tries, the more insecurity it generates, which has shaken the very pillars of its rule.

If the United States and the affiliated regimes feel that intimidation, repression, hounding, torture, and executing Islamic forces will change anything and shatter the people's determination to achieve Islam's supremacy, they are laboring under a delusion.

If today the campaign against the legitimate rights of the Muslims of Islamic lands and the crushing of activist forces who wish to hoist the proud banner of Islam is to be considered a general policy by the servile regimes, it is the same policy being dictated by the United States. And it is insisting that it be recognized as an official policy of these governments.

Experience has shown that the more pressure put on nations seeking to vindicate their rights, the more determined they become to continue their path. It benefits no one to test the will of the honorable Muslim nations, because they will not only witness their defeat and failure in this path, they will first become targets of the flames of the nation's fury and will encounter the fate of "al-Sadat" and "Boudiaf".

Boudiaf's killing has dealt a lethal blow to the domineering American policy on the world of Islam. This is the first response by the Muslim revolutionaries to the new American policy. Even before the trial of the Islamic leaders—for their quest for freedom and the renaissance of Islam in the Islamic country of Algeria—could take place, the revolutionaries fired the decisive shot on the puppet president of the coupist government. With their thunderous cries of "God is great," they proved that if the nations sense danger they will not sit idle.

If the U.S. Government does not heed the lesson of this incident, it will have committed a major act of folly.

'National Reconciliation' in Algeria Urged

NC1307184292 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Arabic 1630 GMT 13 Jul 92

[Station commentary]

[Text] The military court in Blida, Algeria, which is trying the leaders of the Islamic Salvation Front [FIS], resumed its sessions on Sunday afternoon. Several witnesses, including former Prime Minister Mouloud Hamrouche, his interior minister, Abdelkader Hachani, and several FIS leaders were present. The court was due to resume its session in the morning, but the defendants were absent, limiting the proceedings to a reading of the indictment against seven FIS leaders.

The detained FIS leaders and their lawyers have refused to attend the court sessions because foreign correspondents, representatives of international organizations, and eight Moroccan defense lawyers were barred from attending the trial. Consequently, the Blida court decided to try the defendants under emergency provisions if they continued to refuse to attend court. An emergency trial, unlike a trial in absentia, does not give defendants the right to appeal.

The first session of the FIS leaders' trial was held on 27 June, when the defendants and defense lawyers left the court because of unsuitable conditions and the ban on the attendance of international organizations' representatives and foreign news agency correspondents. Subsequently, it was decided to resume the trial yesterday, 12 July. Then certain events took place in Algeria—Mohamed Boudiaf, chairman of the government's Higher State Council, was assassinated by a member of his own bodyguard and Prime Minister Sid Ahmed Ghozali resigned.

New domestic developments in Algeria are not unlikely following the selection of Ali Kafi as successor to Mohamed Boudiaf and Belaid Abdessalam as prime minister. Such new events might reinforce the notion that the current crisis has compelled officials to reconsider their policies. Putting the FIS leaders on trial and charging them with major offenses shows the Algerian leaders' wish to flex their muscle before the opposition, but it also provokes uncertainty and suspicion in the country.

Continuing the trial of the FIS leaders in this manner and the possibility of passing death sentences on some of them—in light of the charges—reduces the chances of ending the crisis in that country. Most experts on Algerian politics believe the only way to extricate the country from its deepening crisis is to try to reach an understanding, carry out a national reconciliation, and abstain from eliminating political opponents. The Algerian leaders are urged to attempt to combine the efforts of existing groups to resolve the country's political and economic crises.

Commentary Views 'Weakness' of United Nations

LD1307142692 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0951 GMT 12 Jul 92

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Javier Perez de Cuellar, former UN secretary general, once again stressed the unfairness of the veto power in the world's biggest international organization. In a speech in Malaysia entitled Security in the New World Order, he also spoke openly against raising the number of those with veto power. He said this power is unfair and must be abolished rather than raising the number of those who have this power.

Perez de Cuellar has time and again declared his opposition to the power of veto. He has openly declared his loathing of the presence of the superpowers.

It is obvious that the basic structure [baft] and fundamental principles of the United Nations, which was born in the aftermath of World War II, could not but reflect that event's characteristics. It was decided that the organization's main aim is to safeguard international peace and security. To attain this specific purpose, collective measures were envisaged to prevent threats to peace or violations of the peace and to prevent aggression or other acts that violate peace.

But the UN Charter was in fact the idea of the five great powers. The legal powers set out in the UN Charter were based on the supposition that the five great powers would agree on issues of international peace and security. But in the next stage—that is, during the cold war—the conflicts of interest between its permanent members meant that in practice the UN Security Council enjoyed limited powers to deploy military force, enforce economic sanctions, or diplomatic moves. This was because each of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council vetoed many resolutions according to their own or group interests, thereby preventing any progress in the business of the United Nations.

The swift political and economic changes in the Eastern Bloc and Iraq's aggression against Kuwait prompted U.S. President Bush to put forward the idea of a the new world order. After the Kuwaiti crisis, the UN Security Council adopted 14 resolutions, including Resolution 678, and sanctioned the military operation against Iraq. Meanwhile, the United States claimed that its actions were legal, because they were demanded by the world community. Although the world community condemned Iraq's aggression against Kuwait, from a legal point of view the West's U.S.-led military action against Iraq did not conform to the issue of collective action to safeguard peace under the leadership of the UN, as depicted in Chapter 7 of the UN Charter.

In addition, side by side with this misuse of the United Nations, the United States is using the nonpayment of its $700 million debt to the United Nations as a lever for

pressure. The United States owes the United Nations more than any other country. Such behavior will undoubtedly disrupt the operations of UN peacekeeping forces.

According to Perez de Cuellar, the former UN secretary general, the organization faces a budget deficit equivalent to $988.1 million. Of this deficit, $524.6 million are for running expenses and $463.5 million for peacekeeping operations. Under these circumstances, to talk of a new world order as the West does under U.S. leadership, means that if the race for military supremacy was the driving force in the rivalry of the Cold War, the moving force for the new rivalry is the race for economic and technological supremacy. And on this path, any issue which hinders the interests of the West and the United States must be destroyed or set aside.

This situation is in fact a new disorder resulting from the big powers' irresponsible attitude toward the United Nations and their disregard of its rules and regulations. This is the most important weakness of the United Nations.

In any case, considering all the regional and national requirements of various states, and despite all the problems and tensions, the present world undoubtedly needs a global organization to resolve its problems by safeguarding peace and international cooperation. Therefore the United Nations must be strengthened. It will be possible to talk of a new world order when the present system undergoes a fundamental change, and when the United Nations stops acting as an instrument for exerting direct or indirect influence for the big powers and implementing their objectives and demands.

Youth Said Target of Foreign 'Poisonous Programs'

NC1307153592 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 2 Jul 92 p 18

[Commentary by 'Ali Akbar Kasa'iyan: "Turkey's 'TV Show' in Khoy, Maku"]

[Text] Following a suggestion made to cultural officials on beaming quality television films and cultural features to the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan—Afghan Muslims still seem to be getting decadent and disgraceful Russian television films—we suggested helping them by exporting Iranian films of high, even medium, standard [as published]. We have heard that in our dear country's northwest and south, foreign television channels show films that dispute Islamic values and that this harmful propaganda is rife in the border areas.

The villages and cities in northwest Iran, such as Khoy and Maku, are also being flooded with venomous propaganda carried on Nakhichevan television. An honorable Azerbaijani compatriot stated: We are fed up with Nakhichevan television carrying anti-Islamic and horrifying programs, which we are ashamed to view in front of our spouses and children. We switch on the set and get foreign television programs with a strong, clear picture; these eclipse our local television programs, arousing young people's curiosity and leading them astray. A recently introduced feature, "Turkey's TV Show", is carried regularly from 0900 to 0300 with poisonous programs watched by our curious youth. Some of our youth are so influenced by these objectionable programs that they behave in a way that proves they have been misled and have deviated from the path. Why don't they stop such programs?...." [ellipses as published]

The powers of world arrogance do not leave us in peace and, using various means, strive to strip us of our cultural values from within and make us indifferent to Islamic ethics. The methods include drug use by the youth; showing lurid and corrupting films and photographs; better relays of channels that carry risque and vulgar television programs; and publishing and distributing romantic and poisonous literature and similar material. First, they want to burn the roots of the Islamic revolution from within and lead the youth astray by moral degradation and drug addiction. Eventually they plan to debilitate us to the extent that we unquestioningly concur with whatever they say.

When the powers of world arrogance see they are unable to tackle our noble and faithful Basiji [mobilization organization] youth, even by military means, or to easily undermine them, they resort to other, more crafty tactics. Initially they seek to project our religious and national beliefs as worthless and attempt to divert our youth from performing their religious obligations and abstinence from sin. Gradually they seek to make them different beings, gullible, and doting on everything foreign.

Should we remain silent spectators in the face of this multifaceted conspiracy that has been hatched to make the younger generation deviate from its path or should we act before it is too late?

The custodians of culture and propaganda—particularly the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran—should thwart this poisonous television by technical means and improve Iranian radio and television program relays in the border areas. They should also produce various attractive cultural programs in line with Islamic standards to motivate the young to view them. They should create greater employment and expand and boost centers for training in culture, art, and athletics so that youth occupy their leisure time meaningfully and constructively and don't get drawn into viewing foreign programs.

'Security Forces Day' Planned for 18 Jul

LD1507111392 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 15 Jul 92

[Text] On the interior minister's suggestion and with the agreement of the commander in chief of the Armed Forces, his eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i, 18 July was

named Security Forces Day. Special ceremonies will be held on that day throughout the country to mark the occasion.

Mr. Rahmani, the leader's representative in the security forces and the director of the ideological-political bureau of the security forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, announcing the above news, told the correspondents: This day—the anniversary of the Majles passing the law on merging the security forces—in addition to holding joint morning parades with the participation of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran throughout the country, major security forces urban exercises will be held in all the main squares of all the cities of the country to demonstrate the powerful presence of these forces.

The leader's representative in the security forces—referring to the extensive nature of the activities of these forces in various security, law enforcement and service fields—described their campaigns against smuggling narcotics, the unlawful acts, social corruptions, and various offences as the most important duties of these forces. He added: During the past year, the forces in charge of fighting against narcotics and the border guards of the security forces discovered about 40 tonnes of narcotics and smashed many international smuggling rings.

Later in his speech, referring to the remarks of his eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i, the esteemed leader of the Islamic revolution, in his meeting with the self-sacrificing basij forces, the leader's representative announced the readiness of the security forces to implement his eminence's orders for creating a secure environment and a healthy Islamic society.

Larijani To Replace Islamic Guidance Minister

LD1607103992 Tehran IRNA in English 2206 GMT 15 Jul 92

[Text] Tehran, July 16, IRNA—Following the resignation of Culture and Islamic Guidance Minister Hojjat-ol-Eslam Mohammad Khatami-Ardakani announced here today, President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani appointed 'Ali Larijani in charge of the ministry.

The Majles is currently on summer vacation. Upon the reopening of the Majles on August 5, the president will introduce Larijani as the new minister to receive a vote of confidence.

Khatami-Ardakani submitted his resignation to President Rafsanjani on May 24 but had not been accepted until today. Unconfirmed reports on Khatami-Ardakani's resignation had been publicized by the media before.

'Ali Larijani is the brother of Mohammad Javad Larijani, a Majles deputy and advisor to the foreign minister.

The new acting minister of Islamic guidance served as deputy minister of Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC), of labor, of post, telegraph and telephone, and advisor to the IRGC commander-in- chief.

In a decree to Larijani Thursday morning, president Hashemi-Rafsanjani said that with regard to Hojjat-ol-Eslam Khatami-Ardakani's resignation and in the light of "your scientific and executive records and intellectual competence, I appoint you as head of the ministry according to article 135 of the constitution."

"I hereby appreciate and laud the efforts and services of Mr. Khatami-Ardakani. I expect all the colleagues throughout the country will render full cooperation in performance of the affairs of the ministry," said the decree.

Wishing success for Larijani in handling such a "grave responsibility", the president called on him to regularly report to the president on the affairs pertaining to the ministry.

Larijani is the son of the late Grand Ayatollah Amoli and son-in- law of Ayatollah martyr Morteza Motahhari.

He is a graduate in mathematics and computer science of Sharif Industrial University and holds M.S. and PhD degrees in philosophy from Tehran University.

He had also previously served as managing director of the Islamic Republic of Iran Broadcasting (IRIB) in martyr Rajaei's cabinet, and acting commander of the Joint Army Staff.

Presently he is a member to the board of trustees of Imam Hoseyn (AS) University, board of directors of cooperative foundation of the IRGC, board of directors of Amir Kabir Publications and first representative of the judiciary at the IRIB.

National Bank Governor Reports on GDP

LD1307103192 Tehran IRNA in English 0753 GMT 13 Jul 92

[Text] Tehran, July 13, IRNA—Based on initial estimates of the Central Bank, Iran's gross domestic product (GDP) aggregated rls. [rials] 46,776.8 billion in the calendar year 1370 (ended March 20 1992), said Bank Governor Mohammad Hoseyn 'Adeli here Sunday.

'Adeli, who was reporting to the Council of Ministers on the national calculations, said that the GDP in fixed prices rose by about ten percent, of which 5.1 percent was allocated to agriculture, 9.9 to oil, 18.5 to industries and mines, 27.1 to power, gas and water, 8.8 to construction and 5.5 to the services sectors.

The report further added that the net national expenditure indicates decrease in the growth of private and public consumption expenses which reached 7.2 and 4.2 percents over this period.

This indicates a 12.1 percent growth in capital formation as a result of increase in capital investments.

'Adeli said that the overall trade balance which was nil during 1369, rose by four percent in favour of Iran last

year, indicating improvement in Iran's international trade relations with other countries.

Meanwhile, Minister of Culture and Higher Education Mostafa Mo'in briefed the Council of Ministers on research facilities at Iranian universities and higher education centres.

The cabinet ministers assigned the industrial and scientific researches council to set up a separate organization to further develop research activities and establish more active relations between executive organizations and scientific and research centres of the country.

Pipeline Director Cited on Oil Products Tranfers

LD1307143792 Tehran IRNA in English 1243 GMT 13 Jul 92

[Text] Tehran, July 13, IRNA—The Director of Pipelines and Communications Department of the Oil Ministry, 'Ali Mir Mohammadi, told IRNA here today that 1,200,000 barrels per day (bpd) of crude oil and petroleum products are transferred across the country for domestic use.

He said transfer of oil for domestic use through pipelines is more economical than transportation by truck or train tankers.

Mir Mohammadi said that a new pipeline will be inaugurated in southern Hormozgan Province through which 100,000 bpd of petro-products will be flowed from Bandar-e 'Abbas to neighboring provincial cities including Rafsanjan, Kerman and Yazd.

The Oil Ministry has laid down 14-inch pipes between Ray Refinery, near Tehran and Tabriz (in E. Azarbaijan) to transfer petroleum for domestic use in E. and W. Azarbaijan Provinces due to come into operation in the second half of the current Iranian year.

According to Mir Mohammadi 160 stations throughout the country are in charge of pumping oil from refineries to consuming areas. He said all installations for laying pipelines, turbines and oil pumps are done by Iranian technicians.

Government's 'Lack' of Economic Coordination Viewed

NC1007075092 Tehran RESALAT in Persian 24 Jun 92 p 14

[Unattributed commentary: "How Long Will Policy of Double Standards Last?"]

[Text] A major problem in everyday life is inflation, teamed with high prices and the rising cost of public services. A major question people ask is: Why is there no planned policy or timetable for supervising and controlling inflation and unbridled price hikes? The people ask: Why are some administrative, executive, and public services' bodies disregarding the government's basic and general policies and why does each one "tune" its "instrument" to play a "different song?" This lack of coordination and contradiction in word and deed among the executive officials cannot have positive or constructive effects. Our country is in the second decade of the revolution and in the era of reconstruction, so organized plans should be put forward to fulfill the government's objectives by considering political and social conditions to put an end to such contradictions!

In the last days of 1370 [year ending 20 March 1992], the first vice president stated: "In 1371 no product or service will cost more." But the ink on this paper had not dried before the Telecommunications Company announced a few days after this interview that local and intercity telephone calls would cost more! When the public and the press protested this decision, officials made an extremely subtle excuse and "closed" the case! The price rise remained!

In the past few days the people suddenly got astronomic water and electricity bills. They realized the rates had been increased without notice! And when the Ministry of Power was asked to publish the old and the new rates and to explain the increase, it denied one, failing even to publish the rates on which the new bills were based!

Some days ago the Economic Council rejected this increase as contrary to general policies. But the "ink" on the paper of this statement was not dry when the mass media announced the price of flour had risen from 16 to 19 rials! Again the Economic Council started issuing statements, rejecting this increase too! Barely a few hours after a news conference by the Economic Council spokesman in which he refuted the increase in the price of flour did we hear that the Ministry of Education and Islamic guidance, with great pomp and splendor, had increased hotel and inn charges in a bid to support hoteliers and to empty the pockets of passengers and pilgrims. The decision meant a night's stay in an inn on Naser Khosrow and Bab Homayun Streets [in the poorer south Tehran area] would cost 6,000 rials instead of 2,500 rials. This increase spread concern among many of our compatriots who intended traveling during their summer leave. As always, an official refuted this report too, saying the decision was uncoordinated and would be placed on the agenda of the Economic Council.

Considering that all these incidents took place last month, we can see nothing but contradiction, lack of coordination, and lack of attention to the government's general and economic policies! Here the question arises: "How long will the policy of double standards last?" The public has the right to ask why the country's executive and administrative bodies are behaving this way. Why do officials not feel dutybound to obey the law and implement the government's policies? Why do they display such lack of coordination when they offer an explanation to the public?

The people expect the country's executive bodies that are assigned the duty of maintaining the law and ensuring

society's wellbeing to show at least some coordination—it costs nothing—when they implement their policies.

Implementing government policy calls for coordinating decisions and carrying them out. Unfortunately, there appears to be no coordination in some cases and in some bodies under the executive. It would be fitting to review some managerial appointments and create this coordination so that we can see the government's plans being fulfilled and see them take shape. This lack of coordination and this contradiction unfortunately spread pessimism in society and prevent the government's executive and development plans moving as fast as they should. This can only mean loss and damage.

Commentary Views Avoiding 'Economic Impasse'

NC1307210992 Tehran JAHAN-E ESLAM in Persian 2 Jul 92 p 7

["A.S." commentary: "What Price Economic Growth?"]

[Excerpts] For quite some time now we have been seeing the government's new economic policy and its repercussions. In the wake of the imposed war and in view of the need to rebuild the country and change the government's wartime economic policies, proper planning to create the right conditions for such a change was essential.

So the government formulated the first five-year plan for social and economic development and began implementing it. Economic officials have dealt with the plan's objectives and the manner of its implementation in various discussions and its effects have been analyzed and appraised. It has been established that the policy adopted in this plan has been directed toward a market economy based on freeing imports, boosting non-oil exports, creating a suitable foreign exchange system, increasing production, and on reliance on absorbing capital. [passage omitted]

Spiraling inflation is due to the policy of gradually eliminating subsidies and to the government's failure or inability to announce a single foreign exchange system and stip?late the real value of the national currency. These factors have created a sort of turmoil in the country's foreign exchange system and directly affected production. To neutralize the price spiral resulting from the elimination of subsidies, there should have been a concomitant rise in production. Since the increase in production in certain sectors was not complete and correct, the lack of coordination between the policy of eliminating subsidies and the increase in production was one of the main factors generating high prices.

Failure to boost production resulted from the government promising to divert adequate foreign and private investment into production. It has so far been unable to do so. We will discuss the reasons for this in subsequent articles. Since it appears that an increase in domestic production will take a long time, the government is trying to compensate by adopting a policy of liberal imports. In this way the government is seeking to maintain a balance in supply and demand.

This has caused certain problems, such as the government's failure to revamp and change the wartime laws, the absence of foreign exchange parity, and rumors about the current state of affairs that circulate in a society and its economic circles once in a while. These factors affect the prices of imports, which disrupts price levels.

This disruption directly affects the various sections of society and generates discontent, so it may be concluded that in the circumstances the most important and tangible effect of the government's economic policies is spiraling prices and inflation.

This is a temporary problem, as economic officials have repeated, therefore officials are seeking to coordinate all the aspects of this new policy.

High prices and inflation are the price the people are being forced to pay to achieve a balanced economy with beneficial results and a better future. With the country's limited sources of income, if we did not achieve continuing economic growth by increasing production and creating a firm, economically balanced infrastructure, the government could hold prices for a certain time (as it did in the eight years of war), but would very soon face an economic impasse that would create the most adverse social and economic conditions for the people.

To prevent this, efforts are being made to create a balanced economy and attain sustained economic growth by implementing economic adjustment, but, as has been stated before, this must be coordinated.

Public Relations Offices Accused of Censorship

NC1307150792 Tehran SALAM in Persian 2 Jul 92 p 2

[Unattributed commentary: "Public Relations Offices or News Watchdogs?"]

[Text] A meeting of public relations directors and representatives was held last week, during which they discussed their role in fostering relations between their respective departments and the people and the media.

Fortunately, we live in an era in which the need for information and knowledge is well known. Mass communication is therefore far more important than in the past. For this reason, various organizations, private institutes, and government agencies have established public relations offices under the supervision of high-level officials to improve relations between these organizations and the people. The public relations offices are charged with familiarizing the people and mass communications organizations with their respective departments and providing the people with appropriate news. The public relations offices should therefore facilitate the dissemination of information.

Rather than facilitating the dissemination of information, however, the public relations offices are proving to be a new obstacle to the dissemination of information. They have assumed the role of watchdog. Instead of correspondents preparing news reports, the public relations offices produce the reports, justifying this as the prerogative of their directorates. They vehemently oppose the inclusion of news reports they consider opposed to their policy.

If they had only remained satisfied with this! Some of the public relations offices are also acting as censors and preventing the inclusion of some correspondents' reports. If the correspondents do not implement their policies, the officials resort to various measures to restrict their operations.

A few months ago, the esteemed president visited Sharif Industrial University and spoke to the students. Correspondents naturally prepared reports on the occasion. A short while later, however, the Public Relations Department of the President's Office faxed a prepared text to the newspapers with instructions that this be the only report used. Obviously SALAM, in keeping with its obligations, does not operate in this manner. If a SALAM correspondent attends a function, his account of the occasion will be used; there is no reason to print a report compiled by someone else.

There have been similar incidents, but this is not what we wish to discuss here. We did not expect to be excluded from covering the joint session of the cabinet and the Majles simply because we stand for the legitimate rights of newspapers. We feel it necessary to stress that, had we been invited to cover the session, we would have published the report prepared by our correspondent, not the version prepared by the Public Relations Department.

Censorship by public relations offices has not been limited to one or two isolated incidents. Long ago, the Public Relations Department of the Hajj Mission had the same attitude, and its officials completely changed the correspondents' words.

When we practice censorship, we not only tarnish the authority of our organization, we make it more fragile and untrustworthy. In order to correct this, public relations officials should select educated, open-minded and aware officials, familiar with current events, to fill these posts.

In conclusion, we express our gratitude and appreciation to those public relations offices discharging their responsibilities in a responsible manner.

Pakistan

President Meets Uzbek Delegation; Accord Reached

BK1507154292 Islamabad PTV Television Network in English 1400 GMT 15 Jul 92

[Text] President Ghulam Ishaq Khan has said that if Central Asian nations and countries of Economic Cooperation Organization, ECO, could forge closer cooperation [and] economic relations under a well-thought-out institutionalized framework they would emerge as a powerful economic community. [Words indistinct] Uzbekistan headed by the minister for highways, Mr. (Rustam Yunisov) at the Aiwan-i-Sadr [president house] today. The president stressed that promotion of economic cooperation in the region would not attain the desired depth and dimension unless a dependable network of communication links was established. In this connection, the president particularly highlighted the need for air, road, and rail links to facilitate economic interaction and transit trade. The president recalled historical links between South and Central Asia which were snapped in the wake of the establishment of Soviet Union. He said these links should not only be revived, but made so strong now as to withstand all vicissitudes of the time. The leader of the delegation, Mr. (Rustam Yunisov), conveyed to the president his government's keen desire to forge as close relations with Pakistan as possible.

Pakistan and Uzbekistan have agreed to enhance cooperation in the fields of railways, automobiles, transport, telecommunications, energy, and banking. The agreement was reached at a meeting in Islamabad today between the visiting Uzbek delegation and the Pakistani delegation led by the minister of state for communications, Mr. Mohammad Azam Khan Hoti. The meeting decided to constitute a high-level committee to put up further suggestions in light of the agreement reached today.

Foreign Ministry Recalls New Delhi Envoy

BK1507110992 Islamabad THE NEWS in English 15 Jul 92 p 14

[Text] Islamabad—Hussain Haqqani, assistant, [punctuation as published] press secretary to the prime minister, has been appointed ambassador to Sri Lanka, it is reliably learnt.

A source said that he would take over the new assignment within two weeks.

In another surprising decision of the Foreign Ministry Mr Abdul Sattar, ambassador to India, has been summoned back and Mr Shahid Malik has been asked to take charge of the embassy as interim charge de affaires in India.

Spokesman Asks India To Protect Disputed Mosque

BK1507142292 Islamabad PTV Television Network in English 1400 GMT 15 Jul 92

[Text] Pakistan has once again stated that its support to the struggle of the Kashmiri people for the right of self-determination is in accordance with the United Nations resolutions. A Foreign Office spokesman said in Islamabad today that Pakistan will continue to extend its moral, diplomatic and political support to the Kashmiri people.

On Babri Masjid [disputed mosque in India], Pakistan has expressed the hope that Government of India will fulfill its constitutional obligations to protect Babri Masjid as well as the rights of the Muslim minority community. The spokesman said Pakistan has all along opposed the plan of extremist elements in India to demolish the historic Babri Masjid on a baseless pretext which is a part of Islamic heritage. The spokesman said Pakistan is in contact with the Organization of Islamic Conference [OIC] with a view to evolving a strategy for the protection of Babri Masjid and for preventing the desecration of the adjoining land. The spokesman said we welcome the statement by the OIC secretary general calling upon the Indian authorities to take steps to save Babri Masjid.

The spokesman said the minister of state for foreign affairs, Mr. Mohammad Siddique Khan Kanjoo, will pay a five-day official visit to Kuwait, Qatar and Bahrain from Saturday [18 July].